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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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NIGER PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE EXPLAINS ECOWAS DEFENSE PACT

Paris AFRIQUE DEFENSE in French Jul 79 pp 38-39

[Interview of President Seyni Kountche by J. de Lestapis: "The Idea of the Defense and Nonaggression Pact Has Made Headway Within CEDEAO"; place and date not given]

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel Seyne Kountche, president of the Niger Republic, was in Dakar for the summit meeting of the CEDEAO [Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)]. He agreed to give AFRIQUE DEFENSE on the current problems and the various missions of the Niger national army.

[Question] What do you think of the defense and nonaggression pact among the 16 countries that make up ECOWAS?

[Answer] It is an idea that has made a lot of headway in ECOWAS. The members of ECOWAS considered that it would be a good thing to settle possible conflicts only on a regional basis; basically, we think that no economic institution can achieve its objectives without some confidence and an atmosphere of security. That is the nonaggression aspect, if you will. The idea of assistance, now, can take several forms, among which would be the common use of armed forces when one of the members is a victim of aggression.

ECOWAS is rather large in area, for it includes a large part of West Africa, and the languages in use include English, French and Portuguese, i.e. a very diverse area into which we are trying to bring some kind of economic unity. This unity that we seek supposes not only an atmosphere of confidence but also one in which everyone can feel secure. Will this idea prevail? We will have to wait for the committee reports. In any case, considering that it involves member states of the OUA [Organization of African Unity (OAU)], that the idea of economic associations is current, that even if we don't achieve a system of assistance or defense within ECOWAS, I think the idea of nonaggression is welcome precisely because it strengthens the economic character of this organization. Prudence and realism make us think that an alliance has more chance of being achieved than a defense pact.

[Question] Do you feel that an international African army should be formed within the OAU rather than ECOMAS?

[Answer] A number of things will have to be done if an international army is put together at the level of the OAU or even ECOMAS. We mustn't forget, either, that there is diversity among our national armies as well--I don't mean in the theories underlying these armies--as concerns armament, training and the like. There are examples that tell us that combining forces supposes serious study of what has to be done. The proof is that since the OAU Defense Committee has been in existence, an African army has not yet been achieved. That means that even if the idea becomes a necessity, it will take time and careful consideration to be put into practice.

[Question] Don't you think it might duplicate defense agreements that countries in the African subregions might have or even agreements with more distant African countries or even with non-African countries?

[Answer] I don't think so. Every sovereign state is free to make such agreements, whatever their kind and configuration may be. It would infringe upon a country's sovereignty to tell it because you have this, you must stop that.

[Question] What do you think about interference in African internal affairs, intervention by African countries in other African countries, foreign intervention on the continent by Cubans, the Soviet Union, France, Americans, Belgians, etc., who intervened to settle matters that should have been solved at home?

[Answer] In my modest opinion, there are two causes that make these interventions easier: strategy and economics. As for strategy, we mustn't minimize the geographical position of our continent with respect to other continents. On account of this, certain powers, whatever their size, would like to have a foothold on the continent, whence the jostling that takes place whenever this interference occurs. But I think the main aspect is still the economic aspect. Though we are poor--and we are, actually, because we are less developed with respect to other continents and powers, our continent is a reservoir of raw materials, both minerals of all kinds and agriculture. People covet that. We know of certain world powers, be they medium, small or large, that need these raw materials and, as it happens, don't hesitate to wade right in to gain access to these raw materials. When they do so, they upset the institutions and people who have these raw materials. Concerning interference, be it strategic or economic, we are, in fact, paying for the consequences of protecting our interests. Now, I have said and will say again that we are already economically backwards and poor. We are collaborating with certain powers for the satisfaction of our economic needs. But I hope the choice of the forms of cooperation and collaboration will be left completely up to us.

[Question] Aren't you disturbed to see Africa made a kind of tennis ball being knocked back and forth by a bunch of players?

[Answer] Actually, Africa is in the middle of a figurative ball game, whether it's tennis or football. It is the contested object of certain powers, who are the players. We hope this bad game will end, that the umpires will blow the final whistle and that everyone will think only of developing his own country for the well-being of the people.

[Question] How do you see the future of the African continent?

[Answer] Everything depends on what the world's big shots want. If they want Africa to be stable and prosperous, it will be. Africans are now only mere pawns who defend this or that ideology. We are becoming aware of it, we are aware of it, but at a certain point, we can't do anything about it. We just can't pull the strings.

[Question] Don't you think you can find your own string and thus be able to lead as independently as possible?

[Answer] What does Niger stand for in the disorder of the present-day world? And don't forget that when it comes to defense and national interest, morality doesn't count for much.

[Question] What do you think of the African solutions for the internal problems of Uganda and Chad?

[Answer] I prefer to talk about Chad because Niger, along with other countries, is trying to find a solution to this problem. Our foreign affairs minister is there; he just came from Lagos, where he attended the latest meeting on that country. We are trying to find a solution. We are for reconciliation in Chad, but we exclude no party in the quest for this solution, and we do so solely in the interest of the Chadian people and nation. By that I mean to explain that we are participating impartially in the search for a solution to this business. We are doing so not only because Chad is so close but also because it is a neighbor, a sister African country that has been politically and economically unstable for a number of years. That is why we think we will probably find solutions to this problem in collaboration and harmony with the other countries that are working with us.

[Question] Do you think the solution to these problems requires sending in foreign troops?

[Answer] If all Chadians are willing to meet with one another, I think it won't help to use foreign forces to settle a domestic problem.

[Question] Do you have the same point of view in the case of Uganda?

[Answer] I said I wouldn't say anything about that.

[Question] When your foreign affairs minister was in Kigali, there was a kind of problem with the Chadian delegation, which stamped out in a huff. How do you explain that?

[Answer] Note that the new and completely fresh positions partly explain what happened in Kigali. Niger is a party to the various conferences that have been held in Kano and to the agreements that stem from them. It is inadmissible for us to accept any solution or procedure that conflicts with these agreements because that would mean ignoring an agreement that has been adopted. The Chadian delegation left Kigali because it understood that the Chadian government has yet to be formed. The last ministers' meeting of the Kano conference countries took the position--I won't use the term "legality" for anyone--we consider that the present government was not formed in accordance with the agreement that each of the parties had signed in its turn.

[Question] Can you tell us what the role of the Niger army is?

[Answer] Ours is a young army. We don't conceive of it only as a defense force, we also see it as a service in the development of the country. Those are the two criteria of its existence and development: defense is its traditional side, but, considering the present state of affairs, it has to take part in national development. Our peacetime army has limited means and is intended to develop itself in order to be able to accomplish its traditional missions even as it takes part in the work of national construction. It is fighting on two fronts: that of defense as such and also on the more important one of underdevelopment. It is indeed a combat that calls for a strategy and considerable materiel, though not in the form of large battalions.

[Question] Do you plan to develop the corps of engineers or create a civil corps in charge of national construction?

[Answer] There are different jobs the army could do. With the help of various countries, Niger is setting up an engineering unit that will be able to develop our infrastructures. Our country is not only landlocked but also lacks internal communications. That is why this problem is so important to us.

As concerns a civilian corps of engineers, you are no doubt alluding to what exists in various countries, i.e. the civic service. In Niger, the military is making effective contributions to the development effort. It is all a matter of organization and planning in the use of the army in one area or another.

Defense concerns those who have guns as well as those who do not. So I don't see why those who have guns couldn't work in the rice fields or on a road construction project. The reverse is also true.

[Question] However, doesn't military training have more to do specifically with learning to use weapons than plows, for example?

[Answer] What is the civic service? It is both. It means learning how to use a gun when it is needed and also how to use a plow or serve the people or do anything else that is constructive. Thus, there are two kinds of important activities.

[Question] How is personnel training done in the army?

[Answer] Training is guided by nationalism because the army is an ethnic melting pot and a fundamental factor in building our nation. The training inherited from colonial times is gradually being remodeled and adapted to our own ways.

[Question] One last question, mister president: what do you think of world disarmament?

[Answer] You have brought up an extremely complex subject. The United Nations has passed a resolution on disarmament, to which we lent our modest vote. I won't say it doesn't count for as much as the vote of the big powers.

A very important agreement will be signed in a few days, yet will a reduction in world armaments be achieved? Will the big powers agree to reduce their arsenals? Will they agree, as we wish them to, to destroy what they already have? You may well ask.

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KODJO ON OAU DEFENSE COMMITTEE, SIACA STEVENS ON DEFENSE PACT

Kodjo Evaluates Defense Committee

Paris AFRIQUE DEFENSE in French Jul 79 pp 40-41

[Interview of OAU General Secretary Edem Kodjo by J. de Lestapis: "The OAU Defense Committee and African Conflicts"; date and place not given]

[Text] Mr Edem Kodjo, OAU general secretary, attended the fifth summit meeting of the heads of state and governments of the CEDEAO [Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)], which was held in Dakar on 28-29 May. Mr Edem Kodjo agreed to answer questions from AFRIQUE DEFENSE.

[Question] Can you tell us about the OAU Defense Committee and the nonaggression pact among the ECOWAS member countries?

[Answer] As for the OAU Defense Committee, I think the basics are now clear. We know the conditions under which the armed forces can intervene and what the forces' objectives will be. We have set up the structure in which these armed forces are to be used. The heads of state will have objective bases for discussion at the Monrovia summit. Basically, the problem is how to use this force. Almost nobody is against the principle itself. It is hard to give you details about what has been set up because the heads of state themselves have not yet seen the plans their defense ministers have adopted. The committee of the heads of state is to meet when there is a serious situation and examine and pass upon the ways in which the armed forces are to be used. Besides this council of about 10 heads of state, there is a committee of defense ministers, and a military expert adjoint to and named by the OAU general secretary; this expert helps the general secretary evaluate, shall we say, the conditions under which the whole process of calling up the armed forces may be undertaken. The general secretary may also send a political envoy to the scene to report back. I think it is something practical that we need in the secretariat: a way for us finally to become a little more operational so we can go beyond the area of resolutions and wishing and be able, if need be, to separate enemy brothers. The armed force has been conceived as a way of bringing assistance to liberation movements and as a means of countering foreign intervention. I think we should emphasize the fact that it has been conceived rather to give the OAU the chance to have its own police force to separate antagonists.

[Question] You have been asked a lot of questions about Uganda. Let's suppose that what happened there were happening now.. What could the OAU forces do?

[Answer] In that particular case, we would do what we should have done: namely, once we had contacted both heads of state and seen that at a certain point a country was about to withdraw from the territory it was occupying in the other country, we could then have deployed our forces in the war zone to keep the conflict from worsening and degenerating. For example, if we had had 3,000 men when the Uganda-Tanzania conflict broke out, we might well have set up a cordon sanitaire along the Kagera valley to avoid the confrontations that actually did take place later; that would have been entirely possible and imaginable.

[Question] How can it be explained that the OAU did not intervene in the Shaba conflict, for example, when some countries were willing to on an individual basis?

[Answer] Did Zaire ask the OAU for anything at all? Not to my knowledge. Zaire knows perfectly well that the OAU does not have any forces, so it asked some governments to intervene on a bilateral basis. Some were willing to do so, which is normal, since bilateral relations are in the realm of the possible, which allows problems to be solved through the channel of bilateral or trilateral relations. We think that the OAU, as an instrumentality, ought to have the means to carry out its policies; you can't expect miracles from it if you don't give it even the simplest means of intervention. Thus, the intervention force is a fundamental means of enabling the OAU to contribute a little more definitely to the solution of some problems.

[Question] In your opinion, how will the heads of state react to this possible inter-African army when they meet in Monrovia?

[Answer] I have no preconceived notions. These same heads of state asked me in Khartoum to study the problem and give them a report on it. The problem has been studied. The report will be submitted, and it is up to them to make the necessary decisions. I don't know if it will be accepted by everybody, rejected, or amended if further studies are made. We have done what we were asked to do. We will emphasize the fact that we need a means of intervening in order to fulfill our mission in a really suitable way.

[Question] How do you feel about what has been going on in Chad, that is, the foreign interventions there?

[Answer] First, those aren't foreign interventions. I think those are interventions that everybody wants, if you are alluding to the interventions by Chad's African neighbors. The Chadian problem is a delicate one, and we should be grateful to the countries bordering on Chad for taking the initiative so that the country doesn't fall apart. They did so acting as good neighbors, realizing that the same thing might happen elsewhere in the future. Rather, they should

be congratulated and praised for taking the initiative in protecting the territorial integrity of an African country. Having said this, and coming back to the elements of the armed force, Chad is obviously a specific case where we can see very clearly the necessity for the OAU's having an intervention force. Instead of it being one country, however generous and important it might be, instead of it being one country whose action we approve, and I want to emphasize that, a country that takes the initiative on its own to send in forces, it might have been a group of nations working in concert to send in an African intervention force. Chad is really the most specific example of what we might do if we had the means. In any event, the OAU is at a crossroads. Either we really want it to be in the forefront of solving African problems and we give it the means to do so, or we want it to be merely a debating society, in which case it will continue to do what it has been doing so far: passing resolutions and taking some kind of moral action to protect what can be protected. As for us, we think it is time that African Unity take a step forward and that it be given at least a minimum of structure.

[Question] You recently went to Nouakchott, Algiers and Fez with the heads of state of Mali and Nigeria in their quest for peace in Western Sahara. What is the OAU doing in this particular area?

[Answer] OAU action is being carried out by the OAU's ad hoc committee. There is no difference between the OAU's action and that of this committee and its subcommittee. They are trying for a rapprochement of viewpoints, to harmonize, to bring together, to try to bring points of view together so that they can solve the problem a step at a time. I think the OAU is playing an important role and can continue to work toward a solution to the Sahara problem.

[Question] If OAU intervention forces had been in existence, could they have intervened in this kind of conflict?

[Answer] That depends. It depends on when you come into it and the level it's at. You just can't answer right away. I gave you an example of a specific case where African intervention forces could have gone in: Chad. As for Western Sahara, it's hard to see now, at this moment, how it could be done.

Stevens: Caution on Defense Pact

Paris AFRIQUE DEFENSE in French Jul 79 p 41

[Interview with Siaka Stevens, president of Sierra Leone, by Andre Blanchet: "Siaka Stevens: What Does a Defense Pact Imply?"; 30 or 31 May 1979 en route to Paris]

[Text] Mr Siaka Stevens, president of Sierra Leone, was the first head of state to leave Dakar following the ECOWAS summit conference. As he was taking his seat in an Air France airbus to go to Paris for a "working visit" and lunch with Mr Valery Giscard d'Estaing on 1 July, AFRIQUE DEFENSE talked with him about the defense issues being debated in Senegal.

[Question] Are you in favor of signing a defense treaty among the ECOWAS members, a possibility that the heads of state have been talking about in Dakar?

[Answer] It is wrong to say that the question of a defense pact was on our agenda. We just heard reports. An agreement was reached to give the study to a technical commission that will weigh all aspects of the question, and we will talk about it on this basis at our next meeting. As for Sierra Leone, we have reached no decision as yet. We want to have all the information.

[Question] Are you among those countries objecting to the idea of a defense treaty?

[Answer] I have found out that before getting involved in a discussion, it is important to know what you're talking about. A defense treaty does not mean the same thing to everybody. To begin with, let's agree on a definition: what does a defense pact imply? The same way, when you talk about democracy, it does not mean the same thing in the East as in the West. Nothing is more helpful than to get together and cooperate. But cooperation can sometimes lead to disaster. It's all a question of timing. As I told President Giscard d'Estaing, you may do something very good, but not doing it at the right time is a disaster. So we'll continue to study the matter.

8782

CSO: 4400

SECRETARY GENERAL DISCUSSES OCAM OPERATIONS

Paris DEMAIN L'AFRIQUE in French 18 Jun 79 pp 71-72

[Sydney Moutia, secretary general of the Afro-Malaguasy-Mauritian Joint Organization (OCAM) interviewed by Xavier Messe--date and place unknown]

[Text] [Question] Several years ago we heard that OCAM was dying. That OCAM was dead. Despite the 1974 reorganization there are still many skeptics. What do you think?

[Answer] The word "skepticism" may apply to on-lookers but not to participants. If to be a skeptic is to be completely doubtful, then this attitude is purely imaginary among those who are opposed to African development, to cooperation among developing countries, and to the new international order. Any attempt to dismember African groups does disservice to African interests and African unity, above all, when the objectives of such groups are promotion of economic and social development, the blossoming of culture, and bringing peoples closer together.

The OCAM is a human organization; therefore, it is susceptible to improvements. It never ceases to examine itself, to take a new look at itself in order to be always at the head of African developments. Such examination and new looks are in no way skeptical: distanced trust is there, the accomplishments are there. We know what it is now doing and what it can do, all with modest resources.

[Question] Now then, what new concrete elements has the 1974 reorganization introduced into the OCAM?

[Answer] In speaking of the 1974 reorganization there is a tendency to speak of the OCAM before and after 1974, as one speaks of pre-Columbian and post-Columbian America. Certainly, 1974 was the year in which the heads of state and government declared that the OCAM no longer had any policy purpose, policy being left solely to the jurisdiction of the Organization of African Unity (OAU). But the heads of state did not meet only to declare that, which is nevertheless extremely important. They also analyzed the situation and declared themselves convinced that the OCAM still remained useful to the cause of inter-African cooperation.

[Question] The turn in 1974 therefore appears to be a readoption of the OCAM to the needs of the moment...?

[Answer] The adaptation of the OCAM to the realities of the moment is indeed what makes it useful. The organization has inherited traditions of inter-African cooperation which first saw light of day when independence was attained.

The 1974 date raises the danger of causing it to be forgotten that in 1961 African states had commenced to cooperate within the UAM (African and Malagasy Union), the oldest inter-African group after the Council of Entete. Thereafter were the Afro-Malagasy Union for Economic Cooperation (UAMCE), the Afro-Malagasy Organization for Economic Cooperation (OAMCE). And, in 1966, at Tananarive, the OCAM.

The first resolution of the 1966 Tananarive conference recalled that, even though there had been internal transformations since the establishment of the UAM, the conventions and agreements signed by that body would remain in force. And the member states of the OCAM who were not founding members of the UAM were invited to sign and ratify those conventions.

Since then other conventions have been executed. There also were adaptations, revisions, and updating. Thus 1974 was a stage in the extremely active life of the organization.

[Question] Now that policy matters are henceforth solely within the jurisdiction of the OAU what are the present functions of the OCAM?

[Answer] Your question seems to imply that who has no policy purpose is of no utility at all. Reply cannot be made without entering into the problem of information in developing countries. Present international information makes too much of the weakness of Third World in financial and personnel resources. As a result economic and cultural accomplishments remain virtually ignored. The international mass media stress political matters and exploit them to make it appear that all states do not have the same political option and then assert that different options are the cause of dissension, hostility, or reservations, whereas it is cooperation that should be placed in the forefront. Technical, economic, and cultural cooperation is generally more unobtrusive (because journalists wish it to be so) than political debates.

The OCAM serves cooperation, and does so every day. Council meetings and conferences are occasions for focusing upon the cooperation and giving new directives to the secretary general who organizes its activities, in accordance with a multi-year collaboration program, with the international organizations and other African organizations.

What the OCAM does is not undertaken by any other organization. There is therefore neither rivalry nor competition. This has been observed during meetings of African regional groups and of the "Group of 77."

It must be noted that in all decision making bodies of sub-regional, regional, and international organizations the same problems are posed, but this does not mean that the responsible officials of such organizations are engaging in courses of action in order to be the first to arrive at a goal. The responsible officials have well understood that coordination is necessary so that the best equipped is at the head of the line for a joint and positive action.

[Question] Several countries (Zaire, Chad, Congo, Madagascar, Mauritania, and Gabon) have withdrawn. Others are not regularly paying their contributions.... Is the OCAM going to suffer thereby?

[Answer] Only nine countries are contributing to the operating costs of the OCAM general secretariat. But they are not the only ones participating in the organization's activities. The specialized institutions of the OCAM, and the organization itself, are open to any independent African state. Some of these institutions have their headquarters in the territory of states which have withdrawn from the organization.

All the signatories to the conventions which established the OCAM or joint undertakings are active parties to the texts which they have signed with all privileges and responsibilities. One of these responsibilities is to pay the contribution to the general secretariat or the joint undertaking in which the state participates. Certainly, because of temporary difficulties some countries are late in paying their contribution.

The OCAM is an association of poor countries: per capita income in the richest one is about 500 dollars.

In addition, our countries are at the mercy of fluctuations in price of their products, such as coffee, cocoa, cotton, tea, and sugar. So OCAM has a modest budget, 730 million CFA [African Financial Community] francs for the past year with a population of 34 million people, or less than 22 CFA francs per capita annually.

[Question] How do you think this financial situation can be corrected?

[Answer] But the financial situation is healthy! Difficulties appear because the budgets are adopted after the budget year has already begun and the funds are not available until several months after the beginning of the fiscal period, which gives rise to the necessity of obtaining bank credit. This situation apparently is not peculiar to the OCAM. Cooperation is in the first instance financed by the member countries but it is incumbent upon those who declare themselves in favor of such cooperation to make a suitable gesture to assure its success.

[Question] How are the OCAM joint undertakings functioning, considering the diversity of the laws of the countries which receive their benefits?

[Answer] The specialized organizations are functioning very well. Each has its administrative council, subject only to the authority of the conference of chiefs of state and government which reserves its right to oversee the general directions and activities of an undertaking--a logical consequence of the fact that these organizations and undertakings were established by the conference, which remains their supreme decision making body. The OCAM and its joint undertakings are only manifestations of effective regional activities which can only strengthen African unity.

The training centers are first of all financed by the states themselves, but they are expensive since it is a matter of installing structures which the colonizers had ignored, so we call upon international and bilateral assistance for the required investments and to secure qualified teachers.

In the past our trainees had to go abroad for the training we sought. Now they are trained in Africa. But it is obvious we still do not have available, at home, the teachers capable of instructing in our training centers on a permanent basis. I say indeed available on a permanent basis because we are well aware of the presence of competent persons within our own borders but they are not always available on a permanent basis.

While waiting for African teachers to be available we must have recourse to bilateral and international cooperation for our institutions.

[Question] Two motion picture companies have been established with the OCAM. Can you tell us about them?

[Answer] The cinema is a major concern of the African states. Its two aspects--cultural and economic--are close to our hearts. We must make a start. That is what was done by adoption of a planned policy with the agreement of those involved.

The two companies, one for distribution and the other for production, are under general management of the same person. The planned activity conforms to the recommendations of the councils of ministers in this regard: distribution will be the purpose of immediate activity and the general directorate is already considering the matter. Production is awaited with much impatience by African producers who, by the way, will benefit by use of our distribution network.

Distribution facilities are not yet effective but are already under study. Upper Volta, where our laboratories and headquarters are to be located has already found the site for us. I must say that we are seeking financing to realize this project whose importance, for the producers themselves as well as for our states, is constantly growing greater. To artistic and cultural productions there must be added propaganda productions popularizing all that is underway for the sake of development.

[Question] What is the nature of the forthcoming Cotonou summit?

[Answer] As any organization which is seeking means of development we are again meeting on specific dates to take our bearings and report to the chiefs of state upon our work and our problems and then elaborate a new working strategy for the next period. That, therefore, is what the Cotonou summit will consist of.

11706

CSO: 4400

CLUB DE DAKAR MEETING ON COOPERATION WITH AFRICA REPORTED

Paris LE MONDE in French 16 Jun 79 p 37

[Article by Bernard Elie, regional correspondent]

[Text] Lyon--Three hundred persons, including the representatives of 100 private enterprises located in the southeast quarter* of France, attended the colloquium on "Industrial and Commercial Cooperation with Africa" organized by the Club de Dakar and held on 7 June at the Lyon-Satolas Airport. On the other side, 12 African countries** sent one or two delegates. Such participation, greater than in the similar meetings at Royaumont Abby in 1977 and Birmingham in 1978 at least demonstrated that such meetings between decision makers of industrial countries and developing nations meet a need.

Beyond a showing of interest or need for information will the Club de Dakar manifestation bear fruit? It is very difficult to tell since the subjects of individual conversations were not made public at all. Apparently the business chiefs considered these contacts on the whole satisfactory. But how will they open into transfers of technology? Yet the African countries are not lacking in projects, from the avocado oil plant of Cameroon to the fruit juice processing plant of Ivory Coast to the wood conversion mill of Ghana, which are among the dozens which have been offered.

Some "Blots"

Why is it, then, that applicants are not rushing forward? The managers of small and medium-sized industries, for example, do not have the time to make selection from the information which reaches them and in general do not know that there is an official agency in each country--like the

* Six regions were involved in this meeting: Auvergne, Provence-Cote d'Azur, Languedoc-Roussillon, Rhone-Alpes, Franche-Comte, and Burgundy.

**Ivory Coast, Senegal, Congo (Brazzaville), Kenya, Zaire, Gabon, Mauritania, Mali, Ghana, Togo, Morocco, and Tunisia.

Investment Development Agency (API) in Tunisia--when they want to knock on the door of a country of the Maghreb or black Africa. Frequently, also, the requirements of African countries--such as the obligation to reexport all or part of the production--appear prohibitive. Sometimes, even, it is the matter of trained manpower itself--the questionable competence of management personnel--which is staying the rush of industrialists.

French industrialists must understand that the criteria for selecting projects are very different. On the part of developed countries profitability is often considered to have priority; on the part of African countries, in general, preference is given to political and employment aspects and export potentials. However, the discussions did not enable it to be learned whether there must be transfer of sophisticated technologies or else preference "for more time-worn, but reliable, processes." M. Bobatel, chairman of the Lyon inter-trade group, who was responsible for presenting the conclusions of the sessions, emphasized, "One thing is certain: the technologies transferred must first of all be adapted to the physical environment, next to the technical environment, and last, to the social and human environment."

"Blots" have already occurred. Cited was the example of that meat canning plant, installed in northern Nigeria where cattle are abundant, which is in a bad way because it was realized--but too late--that the animals are an integral part of the environment of the population and that it had no intention of parting with them....

Cannot these difficulties be smoothed out, if not fully resolved, by the institution of mechanisms for concerted action? In the opinion of Mohamed Diawara, former minister of planning of Ivory Coast, that would be a way to minimize the disadvantages and maximize the advantages of the necessary redeployment, and in all events, inevitable in industrial activities.

Toward this end the president of the Club de Dakar even appealed for the establishment of a kind of regional relay station making it possible to catalyze efforts and to make permanent the knot tied at Satolas among the various partners. His proposal failed in its aim; the decision makers of economic organizations which are separate are not ready to form a common front. French industrialists, concerned about business secrecy, will have to conquer Africa in extended file.

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CSO: 4400

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

PARAKOU-NIAMEY RAILROAD--Our great comrade in arms, President Kerekou, and President Seyr.i Kountche of Niger last Thursday approved the route for the extension of the Parakou-Dosso-Niamey railroad. The two chiefs of state reached their agreement on the route at the end of the summit meeting of chiefs of state of the member countries of the Air Africa Company which was held in the Togolese capital. The future rail line will pass through Bembereke, Kandi, Guene, and Malanville on the Benin side before crossing the Niger River. It will then pass through Gaya and Dosso on the way to Niamey. If materials are available a crossover between Guene and the Niger River will be built, whose terminus will be indicated at the proper time by the Benin Government. [Text] [Cotonou EHUZU in French 12 Jun 79 pp 1, 6] 11,706

ALGERIAN OIL FOR GHANA--During the month of June an Algerian delegation came to Ghana to begin the second stage in the negotiations undertaken between Algiers and Accra for the purpose of organizing cooperation between the two countries. Starting now, the Algerians intend to provide Ghana with crude petroleum. This project had been contemplated at the conclusion of a 4-day visit to Algeria by Ibrahim Abdoulaye, a Ghanaian minister of energy and petroleum, from last 4 to 11 [as published] May. Upon that occasion the Ghanaian minister had conversations with Nobi Belkacern, Algerian minister of energy and petrochemical industries. He also visited gas and petroleum processing plants in the Arzew industrial region. [Text] [Paris DEMAIN L'AFRIQUE in French 18 Jun 79 p 55] 11706

CSO: 4400

COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH HUNGARY SIGNED

Cotonou EHUZU in French 6 Jun 79 pp 1, 6

[Article by A. Assevi]

[Text] Yesterday, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation in Cotonou, the ceremonial signing of two cooperation agreements between the People's Republic of Hungary and our country, the People's Republic of Benin, took place. These are a trade agreement and an agreement for scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries.

Acting on behalf of Benin was Comrade Leopold Ahoueya, minister of transport, and for Hungary, the vice minister of foreign commerce, Comrade Sandor Udvardi.

Also noted was the presence of Comrades Isidore Amoussou and Andre Atcnade, minister of finance and minister of commerce and tourism.

In his speech Comrade Leopold Ahoueya, acting on behalf of our minister of foreign affairs, declared that these two agreements constituted a new and important step in the history of relations between our two countries. A new step, said Minister Ahoueya, because the two agreements widened the scope of our relations, a scope heretofore very much limited by virtue of the non-application of agreements in existence since 1962.

This is an important step, the minister continued, because henceforth nothing can impede the desire of our two peoples to be further united. After having pointed out that the People's Republic of Benin attaches great importance to the actions just accomplished by the two delegations in expectation of positive results, Minister Ahoueya considered the scientific agreement as the appropriate frame of reference for positive action in the area of training, research, and cultural activities.

Minister Ahoueya urged the two parties to get everything underway in order that the hopes contained in the two documents truly translate into deeds. He concluded by congratulating the Hungarian and Benin experts who contributed to the formulation of the two agreements.

For his part, after having also deplored non-application of the agreements of 1962, the vice minister hailed the readiness of the Benin authorities to strengthen ties between our two countries. The Hungarian vice minister, Comrade Sandor Udvardi, considered that the two agreements will consolidate the economies of the two countries. After adding that the People's Republic of Hungary and the People's Republic of Benin are committed to the same road, the Hungarian vice minister gave his assurance that his country will provide effective assistance in the area of technical and scientific cooperation.

In the other areas, concluded Comrade Sandor Udvardi, the People's Republic of Hungary will do its best to honor the agreements.

11,706

CSO: 4400

SOCIAL, POLITICAL REORGANIZATION OF OUESSE RURAL DISTRICT

Contonou EHUZU in French 8 Jun 79 pp 1, 8

[Special communique from the Revolutionary Military Government]

[Text] During the meeting on Wednesday, 6 June 1979, of the Council of Ministers, the chief of state submitted for the council's consideration the conclusions of the commission of inquiry which had been sent to the rural district of Ouesse in the province of Le Zou following acts of insubordination experienced in that new administrative district after its formation.

It will be remembered that, for the purpose of bringing administration closer to those administered, the Council of Ministers at its meeting of 30 May 1978 made public the new administrative division of our country after study of the plan submitted to it by the central committee of our avant-garde party, the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin.

The new district resulting from dismemberment of the Save rural district was the subject of successive proposals, on the one hand, of the Revolutionary Council and the Revolutionary Administrative Committee of the rural district of Save, and on the other, of the Provincial Council of the Revolution and the State Committee for Administration of the province of Le Zou. At the latter level a choice between Kilibo and Ouesse as chief town of the new district was proposed to the party's central committee.

But the indiscretions of the administrative and political authorities in the rural district of Save, which were exploited by elements originating from Kilibo soon resulted in rejection of Kilibo as designated chief town.

Our party's central committee, after analysis of the situation of Kilibo and of Ouesse, and considering population age, level of economic development, and organization, decided upon Ouesse.

On the basis of a leak of information according to which at the level of the party's central committee Ouesse held the winning hand to become chief

town of the new district, intense agitation arose in Save and Kilibo. In fact, whether it was at the level of the district's revolutionary council, of a group within the district's party, or of the Revolutionary Action Group, the elements originating from Kilibo and their sympathizers of the same ethnic group commenced actions bordering upon subversion with the intention of inducing the superior authorities to revise, in Kilibo's favor, the decision of the central committee to install Ouesse as the new district's chief town.

Under the pretext that they had been cheated, members of local committees rejected the authority of the former chief of the rural district of Save and repudiated the authority of the chief of the new district of Ouesse whom they shunned.

After having maintained a poisoned social climate which led to the violent demonstrations of 30 August 1978 these same elements continued to engage, in the area, in feverish agitation and to send, on missions outside the province of Le Zou, delegations of persons without any political responsibility at all in Kilibo.

In consideration of all the foregoing the council has made the following decisions:

1. The comrades whose names follow are transferred out of the province of Le Zou:

Samon, Philibert, teacher at Kilibo;

Abiola, Emmanuel, teacher at Kilibo;

Adjin, Joseph, teacher at Kilibo;

Elegbede, Leon, teacher at Save;

Assani, Mouniratou, teacher [female] at Abomey;

Chabi, Isaac, teacher at Kombo;

Daoudou, Elie, teacher at Kemon;

Baba, Ekpa Remy, rural recruitment officer at Kilibo;

Bankole, Theophile, nurse [male] at Kokoro;

Chabi, Salomon, postal clerk at Kilibo; and

Pelebe, Ernest, professor of CEMG [expansion unknown] at Save.

2. The comrades whose names follow are removed from local committees of the National Council for the Revolution, or forbidden to join them:

Ode, Celestin, delegate from Kilibo;

Falem, Zacharie, peasant at Kilibo;

Chabi, Jean, peasant at Kilibo;

Lawani, Issa, peasant at Kilibo;

Kachoni, Abel, peasant at Kilibo;

Adimi, T. Emmanuel, peasant at Kilibo;

Biaou, Louis, peasant at Kilibo; and

Adjagba, Joseph, peasant at Kilibo.

In addition, it is requested that the Ministerial Delegate to the President of the Republic in charge of the Interior, Security, and National Orientation, political commissar of the province of Le Zou, in company with all comrade members of the State Committee for Administration of the province of Le Zou, go into the region to explain clearly to the people of Kilibo the importance and actual scope of the new territorial division.

The Ministerial Delegate to the President of the Republic in Charge of the Interior, Security, and National Orientation, political commissar of the province of Le Zou, will also proceed to replace the local revolutionary councils and the revolutionary communal council at Kilibo.

Prepare for the Revolution!

The struggle continues.

11,706

CSO: 4400

BRIEFS

OPPOSITION FORMS UNITED FRONT--Four movements in opposition to Emperor Bokassa I, which met 7-9 July in Cotonou, decided on "the effective establishment of a coordinating committee." In a communique issued on 10 July, the ANECA (National Association of Central African Students), the FPO (Ubangi Patriotic Front), the FLO (Ubangi Liberation Front) and the MLPC (Movement for the Liberation of the Central African People), stated that they will coordinate their activities with a view to "overthrowing Bokassa's bloody regime," "restoring the Republic" and "re-establishing democratic freedoms." These four movements had already reached an agreement on 21 June and this second meeting seems to have had above all the purpose of contacting Abel Goumba, at present an official of the WHO, stationed in the economic capital of Benin, acting President of the Republic in 1959, and an exile since 1962. The latter is increasingly giving the impression of being a leader of the opposition to the emperor, in particular because he symbolizes a solution "among Africans" (LE MONDE of 16 June). On the other hand, according to private sources, the report of the "African investigative commission," established during the summit in Kigali to enquire into events of April, in the Central African Empire, reached a conclusion concerning Bokassa I's presence in the prison in Bangui, on the night when the massacres took place but stated that no material proof permits it to be stated with assurance that the emperor himself killed the students. According to these sources Bokassa I "was neither whitewashed nor condemned" by the commission: this ambiguous report is reportedly consistent with what the majority of the chiefs of state who will meet in Monrovia desire. [Text] [Paris LE MONDE in French 12 Jul 79 p 5]

SACKING OF BOKASSA'S EUROPEAN PROPERTY--Several residences of Emperor Bokassa I in Switzerland have recently been sacked. Rumors mention the complicity of Swiss citizens. Several watchmen of these residences reportedly received anonymous death threats. Taken with panic, they reportedly abandoned their jobs. Similarly, a group of individuals whose identity has not been disclosed sacked the premises of the Central African Empire's embassy in Brussels, the property of Emperor Bokassa I. These acts of vandalism in Switzerland and Belgium against the property of Emperor Bokassa and the complicities which their perpetrators seem to have enjoyed undoubtedly reflect the wave of disapproval raised in his own country and across the world by the bloody deeds of the Central African sovereign. [Text] [Paris DEMAIN L'AFRIQUE in French 18 Jun 79 p 23] 2662

BRIEFS

COMMITTEE TO INTEGRATE ARMIES ESTABLISHED--Ndjamena (AFP)--Armed units belonging to three of the four political trends of opinion represented within the government in Ndjamena invested on 14 July their respective headquarters and occupied the public buildings of the Chadian capital to compel their chiefs to accept the integration of the three armies. These soldiers, who belong to the Northern Armed Forces (FAN) of Hissein Habre, the People's Armed Forces of the Chadian National Liberation Front (FAP-FROLINAT) of Goukouni Oueddei, and to the "third army" (former People's Movement for the Liberation of Chad) of Idriss Adoum Mustapha, removed all the insignia distinguishing them and took up a position together in front of the Presidency, the Palace of Government and some official buildings. The operation was held calmly and included many scenes of fraternization, the soldiers voicing their desire to be "henceforth united." An official of the FAP announced that a committee in charge of supervising the "combined army" was established. It includes representatives of the FAN, the FAP-FROLINAT, the "third army," as well as soldiers of the Chadian Armed Forces (FAT), loyal to General Djogo, fourth trend of opinion in the government. [Text] [Paris LE MONDE in French 18 Jul 79 p 6]

CSO: 4400

MARXIST LINE TO CONTINUE DESPITE DISCONTENT

Paris DEMAIN L'AFRIQUE in French 18 Jun 79 pp 36-37

[Article by special correspondent Pierre Debato: "Daring Coup in July"]

[Text] In Brazzaville "the green," the fever of meetings has resumed: The Congolese are once more getting ready for approaching elections. These are important. By a referendum on 8 July 1979 they will revamp the Congolese institutions. A draft constitution, bearing the imprint of socialism, will be submitted to the citizens' votes. On the same day the Congolese will elect their representatives to the People's Assembly.

At Poto-Poto, a crowded neighborhood in Brazzaville, a platform was erected near the Avenue de la Paix. Many inhabitants of Brazzaville rose early last Sunday to attend a large popular rally organized by the department of propaganda. Michel Bokamba-Yangouma, who chaired the meeting, issued an appeal for the resumption of the activities of the people's militia in enterprises, schools, and districts. A resolution of the special [PCT] congress of 23 March 1979 underscored the need for increased vigilance by the population as a whole in order to protect the achievements of the revolution.

It is a rather original and daring experiment which the leaders of the Congolese revolution, under the direction of the head of state, Col Denis Sassou-Nguesso, who is simultaneously the secretary general of the PCT [Congolese Labor Party], will try, namely, to decentralize the government. From now on each region will be endowed with the means and responsibilities of its policy: Financial autonomy, local political structures, and so on. The role of the central government will consist in controlling and guiding the various decisions made at the regional level. Has the Congolese revolution reached a sufficient level of maturity to enable it to set up such an audacious political and economic system?

"It is necessary to make the masses responsible, to trust them and to encourage their participation in public administration." Jean-Pierre Thystere Tchicaya, member of the PCT's Politburo charged with ideology and

education, is convinced that this system should "check the manifestation of tribalism." He asserted: "The Congolese masses are ahead of some elements of the PCT executive. Because of that they have become more demanding vis-a-vis the party leaders. We noted this at the time of the special PCT congress in March 1979: Many young persons had taken the initiative then to destroy houses whose owners were suspected of underhand operations slated to undermine the national economy."

After the Poto-Poto meeting a cab driver whom I asked what he thought of it answered me disillusioned: "For the past 15 years we have been hearing the same slogans, but in the meantime we are hungry." "It is not that easy," a party cadre who had recently returned to Congo told me. "In order to gauge our difficulties adequately it is indeed necessary to understand that Congo is experiencing an acute financial crisis. No foreign power has yet evidenced its intention to help us financially. We must unquestionably rely on our own resources."

Under the circumstances the effort will consist essentially in the formation of a national solidarity fund financed by a monthly levy of 20 percent on all wages. Many Congolese are unaware of the purpose of this fund. But no one seems to be unduly concerned about it. In general, however, it is recognized that the present leaders are striving to get the country out of its economic stagnation. "But what means can they use while monstrous inequalities exist, while there are people who have everything and others have nothing?" Mr G., 24 years old, a student at the Marien Ngouabi University, wondered. "Here affluence rubs shoulders with poverty. In addition, nothing has been done since the revolution: New constructions can be counted on the fingers of one hand even though a remarkable effort has been made for the improvement of individual homes. The major projects in the construction field are the Blanche Gomez Hospital near the Maya-Maya airport and the Cosmos Hotel on the border of the Congo River. Both buildings were erected by the Soviets."

In fact, Brazzaville has retained its antiquated charm of a bygone era: Official buildings of ancient style, gardens full of trees and covered with tall grass--hence the epithet of the capital, Brazzaville, "the green." It would soon be necessary to emerge from this immobilism. The mayor of the capital announced a cleanup and reconditioning program. An effort will be made to improve public health. The streets, filled with potholes, blocked by sand, will have to be repaved.

There is a program on the national television network to report on the situation. Additionally, regularly on the same network, televised discussions stigmatize the mismanagement and faulty operation of state enterprises or other areas of the public sector. These discussions are then commented on at length in official circles. A national commission has been entrusted with drawing conclusions from them. As for the man-in-the-street, it is the problem of finding supplies of staples which

monopolize all his attention. The stores and markets are unquestionably well supplied, but they charge exorbitant prices. Inflation has become the dread of all housewives. But in the last analysis all public affairs are discussed and the debate is open.

An economic development program will have to put an end to this alarming situation. What is involved, said Mr Tchicaya, is to "break with the neocolonial development model. This system has made an appendage of our country. Today we advocate harmonious development of the regions. Economic development will be autocentered and autodynamic. Let me explain: Autocentered means that the nation's interests will guide the selection of projects; autodynamic means that the planned projects will have to fall within the process of internal development. In this program priority will be given to agriculture: 4 billion CFA francs will be used to reactivate agricultural production. Industries will be established upstream and downstream of this sector in order to process crops. Upstream we shall strive for the establishment of equipment-producing firms. Downstream fertilizer, insecticide, and processing plants will be involved. We shall see to the creation of an infrastructure for the marketing of products."

This new economic policy illustrates two slogans issued by the special congress in March 1979: "Economic revolution for the establishment of a material base," and "To live under trying conditions today in order to live better tomorrow." These watchwords as well as others still appear on posters displayed in the streets of the capital. All of them strive to galvanize the zeal of the Congolese at work.

For the 1978-79 agricultural season which is coming to a close, sowing is complete on more than 90 percent of the land included in the program and the distribution of seeds in the rural sector is also 90 percent complete. It is hoped that agriculture will enter a modern stage thanks to the start in planning and the organization of production on more rational bases. Regarding lumber, notable progress has been accomplished: Production targets should be fulfilled to the extent of 100 percent of the OCB [Lumber Marketing Office] and of 70 percent of the SNEB [National Lumber Exploitation Company].

The fact remains that in order to replenish its funds, the government still has to depend for the most part on revenues derived from oil exploitation. By taking into account the most recent increases decided upon by OPEC [Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries], oil revenues should enable Congo to derive this year receipts in the order of 14 billion CFA francs, a figure below that of 1974. At that time they reached 19.5 billion CFA francs for 2.5 million tons produced. In 1979 the Congolese authorities estimate that Congolese oil production will be in the order of 2.8 million tons. But the Emeraude deposit is in the process of exhaustion and the Loango deposit, whose improvement has called for investments totaling 80 billion CFA francs, does not seem to meet all the hopes that the Congolese Government had placed in it.

This financial crisis underlies the development of joint [public-private] enterprises. The profits to be drawn from them will serve to implement the country's development policy. For this purpose the Congolese authorities favor cooperation with the socialist countries. However, Jean-Pierre Tchicaya asserted, "this opening does not exclude cooperation with capitalist countries based on respect for the sovereignty of the partners."

Accordingly, the People's Republic of the Congo is moving with resolve toward its national independence by building its socialism. The rightist trend which appeared to predominate in national life prior to 5 February 1979 is undoubtedly dead and buried. The sense of frustration which seems to overcome the Congolese increasingly is no more than the manifestation of a momentary discontent. If a change were to occur it would be along the Marxist line.

Nearly all Congolese are convinced of this.

2662

CSO: 4400

BRIEFS

REORGANIZATION OF ARMY COMMISSION--On 31 May 1979 three presidential decrees were published in Brazzaville. They relate to the appointment of the members of the Permanent Army Commission. The first decree appointed the members of this commission as follows: Raymond-Damas Ngollo, Francois-Xavier Katali, Edouard Okombi, Boniface Bouka, and Jean-Jacques Nicolas Mvouenze. The second decree appointed the members of the subcommittees of the Permanent Army Commission as follows: chairman of the Permanent Army Commission, Lt Col Raymond-Damas Ngollo, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the PCT [Congolese Labor Party]; chairman of the security subcommittee, Maj Francois-Xavier Katali, member of the Politburo; chairman of the military subcommittee, Capt Michel Gangouo, member of the Central Committee of the PCT; chairman of the political subcommittee, Lt Edouard Okombi, member of the Central Committee of the PCT; chairman of the economic subcommittee; 2d Lt Boniface Bouka, member of the Central Committee of the PCT, also appointed permanent secretary of the Permanent Army Commission. [Text] [Brazzaville LA SEMAINE AFRICAINE in French 7-13 Jun 79 p 10] 2662

EEC FINANCING CFCO REALIGNMENT--The Commission of the European Communities whose member-states are Belgium, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and Britain has just decided to finance a project relating to the realignment of the CFCO [Congo-Ocean Railroad]. The European Community will make a nonrefundable grant of 3.7 million European units of account, that is, approximately 1.07 billion CFA francs, in the context of the regional cooperation provided for in the Lome Convention. Involved is complementary financing additional to the 14.9 million European units of account already allocated to this project and which brings the share of the European Community to a total of 18.6 million European units of account, that is, about 5.4 billion CFA francs, of which 3.2 billion represent nonreimbursable grants. [Text] [Brazzaville LA SEMAINE AFRICAINE in French 7-13 Jun 79 p 10] 2662

CSO: 4400

ELF OFFICIALS SAY ERITREAN REVOLUTION IN GOOD SHAPE

Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 3 Jun 79 pp 4, 11

/Interview with ELF-RC officials Ahmad Muhammad Nasir and 'Abdallah Sulayman; date and place not given/

/Text/ Because we believe that the cause of revolution is one and indivisible and that triumph by the Eritrean revolution in the confrontation war against the Ethiopian occupation enhances the cause of the confrontation against the attempts to re-impose the U.S. domination through the U.S.-Zionist-al-Sadat alliance, we have sought to interview comrades Ahmad Muhammad Nasir, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Revolutionary Council of the Eritrean Liberation Front; and 'Abdallah Sulayman, chairman of the Executive Committee's Foreign Relations Office.

For many reasons, the interview is devoted to conveying a picture of the events and of the accomplishments made recently on the Eritrean arena. Therefore, this interview does not preclude the need to refer to the front's literature and to the resolutions of its two national congresses to complete the dimensions of the real picture of this prominent event in the Horn of Africa.

Only those who have followed the Eritrean revolution's march will realize the indications of what is stated by comrades Nasir and Sulayman. There will always be need to talk about the Eritrean revolution.

/Question/ (We said to comrades Ahmad Nasir and 'Abdallah Sulayman) The Ethiopian military government spread a lot of allegations this year on the death of the Eritrean revolution and on those whom this government calls separatists and highwaymen. This government has also greatly exaggerated the results produced by the 1978 spring offensive.

I see now through the number of statements issued by the front's leadership that Ethiopia's allegations are just a bad lie. You, I believe, are preparing for a counter-offensive.

/Ahmad Nasir/ What has happened is a phenomenon that requires explanation.

With the end of 1977 and the beginning of 1978, the Ethiopian regime was mobilizing its human, military, economic and information resources to launch a battle in Eritrea for two goals:

First, to attempt to liquidate the material presence of the Eritrean revolution, regardless of the accompanying results, by which I mean the actual annihilation of the Eritrean people in their entirety.

Second, if it turns out to be impossible to liquidate the material presence of the revolution, then the least that can be done is to weaken it so that this regime may impose the solutions it wants for the Eritrean issue.

To realize those two goals, the regime amassed on our borders 90,000 to 100,000 troops supported by tanks, armors, rocket launchers, field artillery, aircraft and anything else that could help a swift march throughout the battlefield.

In the face of this situation, the Eritrean revolution had to reexamine its phased tactics at the military and political levels so as to reach proper formulas that would secure the conditions for the confrontation and would destroy the enemy plans.

We had at our disposal a number of facts, of which we will mention that most obvious, namely that the hostile material--human and equipment--concentrations could not be compared with what the Eritrean revolution had in its possession. Moreover, we had to take into consideration the enemy reserves in (Barentu), Asmara, Mossawa and Assab. Those reserves forced us to freeze a fundamental part of our striking forces to blockade the reserves, paralyze them in their positions and prevent them from providing any assistance to the forces advancing along many axes across the borders.

However, our confidence was not shaken in our ability to make up for the /material/ deficiency by the experience of our revolution, which has continued its successful struggle throughout 18 years and which has gained even greater voluntary and absolute popular support and by the readiness of the masses to carry on with the struggle under the revolution's banner until the phased goals of independence and liberation are achieved.

It is needless to say that the tactic followed by the revolution is compatible with the nature of these conditions. To be specific, the front decided to avoid waging a regular warfare against the Ethiopian army. We are not fans of suicide for nothing and we are eager to preserve our military capabilities and our manpower within the framework of preparing to launch the final battle.

In the same manner, the front drew up plans making it possible to exhaust the Ethiopian enemy's human and military resources by moving the revolution's striking force according to carefully studied plans and programs.

So as not to embark on the details of the battles waged by the revolution forces, we will be content to say that the Eritrean revolution has been able--at the level of translating this strategy--to destroy many of the enemy's vehicles and equipment, such as tanks, guns and aircraft, and has killed, wounded and captured tens of thousands of the enemy's military forces.

The Ethiopian enemy believes that re-imposing his control over some cities is the decisive factor in the armed struggle between the Eritrean revolution's army and the invading Ethiopian army. It may seem outwardly that re-imposing control over the cities is an indication of military ability. But the fact is the opposite. Our plans had called for something of the sort that would give the revolution the chance to blockade the enemy again inside these cities and to isolate his camps so as to prevent the arrival of reinforcements of any kind to these camps. This is what is happening now. The Eritrean revolution still has its striking force and still controls the initiative. Moreover, the morale of our masses has not been shaken psychologically at all. Rather, the determination of our masses to expel the occupying enemy has only increased.

What do I want to say? Doesn't all this provide a proof of the Eritrean revolution's superior ability to adjust to all developments?

All the armies of the world need a period of time, which may be short or long, to organize their ranks in the wake of such exhausting battles as this one. In Eritrea, we have been able to reorganize the Eritrean liberation army with superior speed and this is what explains the dazzling results that this army is achieving.

It is my belief that the ability of a revolution--any revolution--to adapt to sudden developments and to organize its ranks in a manner that makes them more effective is an important factor. This is something that the Eritrean revolution has done.

When I refer to the reaction of the masses, I am not talking haphazardly. We have results that refute any attempt to cast doubts on the morale, discipline and voluntary support of our masses. This is due to the fact that the Eritrean revolution has left no place for coincidence. In the confrontation programs, we have taken into consideration mobilizing the masses and the combatants according to our understanding of the concept of the law of war. This means that war is subject to the law of possibilities--you win at times and lose at others, depending on the balance of powers. We have always asserted that our liberation of the cities may not last and that the enemy may re-impose his control over them.

We brought up these issues among the masses as a result of our certain awareness of the conditions of the Eritrean revolution and of Eritrea, which is bordered by Ethiopia from the southwest to the farthest south, and as a result of our international relations, the strategic importance of the Red Sea and of the new alliances of Ethiopia. This is why we avoided putting the Eritrean citizen

in a position in which he would be exposed to the collapse of morale. Thus, this citizen's morale has remained as high as it was before and as if nothing has changed on the Eritrean arena, despite the reestablishment of Ethiopian control over the cities that we had liberated in 1977.

[Question] I believe that the volume of the losses incurred by the front, meaning the Eritrean people, have been enormous. On my latest visit, I saw a part of the destruction suffered by the villages and by the unarmed citizens as a result of the brutal Ethiopian raids.

[Ahmad Nasir] The most obvious consequences of this liquidatory campaign is that it has hampered the revolution's social, economic and educational plans and programs, its agricultural cooperatives in all parts of Eritrea and its educational and anti-illiteracy campaign. It has also destroyed numerous villages and population centers. This has led to the displacement of a large number of citizens whom we are now accomodating in new and secure locations. It is natural that we have offered martyrs and wounded. But what we consider an accomplishment is that we have not lost any piece, not even a single nail, of our military equipment in this confrontation, whereas we have captured tens of tanks and hundreds of pieces of heavy and light weapons.

As I have already said, the morale of our fighters and masses is rising steadily. It is true that the revolution is shouldering new burdens--housing and feeding the refugees, for example--and that we can no longer exploit the fertile cultivable areas. But on the other hand, the enemy cannot cultivate these areas either.

[Question] I once wrote about the Palestinian Eritrea because I believe that the method of the Ethiopian military regime is fully identical to that of the Zionist movement in the occupied Palestine insofar as evicting the local population and purging the land is concerned.

[Ahmad Nasir] This is completely true. This was the policy of the late Emperor Haile Selassie. I remember now a famous statement which Emperor Haile Selassie made in 1964. He said: "We do not need Eritrea's people. We only need Eritrea's land."

Haile Selassie translated this at the practical level in collective annihilation campaigns, especially in 1967 and 1970. A total of 873 citizens were buried in one small town.

But has the Eritrean people's resolution been destroyed?

The current Ethiopian military government has fallen into the trap of believing the same illusion. The ruling leaderships have stated repeatedly since 1975: We are ready to throw this people into the sea. They have exercised the policy of the scorched land through the concentrated shelling of the peaceful villages with the aim of driving the citizens away. This is a reflection of their inability to liquidate the armed units and the popular militia.

This is an extension of Haile Selassie's policy, despite the differences in the approaches of the two regimes. The Ethiopian leaders are following the same policy of Haile Selassie. It is enough for me to point out here the shelling carried out by the Ethiopian military government when our masses were gathering everywhere to celebrate the occasion of May Day. The enemy killed and wounded many of our citizens in the areas of Keren, Agordat, (Qash, Sarai and Hamasin).

[Question] Has this policy compelled you to change your policy in order to settle the conflict peacefully?

[Ahmad Nasir] The Eritrean revolution has repeatedly underlined its principled positions toward the conflict in the area. We have watched carefully the hostile statements made by the ruling regime in Ethiopia since the preparations for the offensive. Here are some of these statements:

Mengistu Haile Mariam, the leader of the Derg, said in one of his speeches: Our war in Eritrea is bitter and long, but we will not allow the highwaymen to take a breather in this phase. Maj Fikre Selassie, the Military Council--Derg--secretary, said a few days before the offensive: We will wage an ugly war in Eritrea to give the Eritrean separatists a lesson.

Our brief answer was that the military offensive carried out by the ruling regime will not succeed, and that persistence in the oppressive and fanatic course will not serve the interest of the Ethiopian and Eritrean peoples, but may serve other forces that could decide to strike the interests of the area's masses.

This assertion of ours was built on the basis of the fact that the regime's information and political projections were progressive. This is why we stressed the need to settle the Eritrean-Ethiopian conflict, peacefully and to negotiate without preconditions by either side in order to achieve our full national rights and to preserve the good relations between the Eritrean and Ethiopian peoples.

When we stress these principled issues, it does not at all mean that our assertions are a mere tactic to avoid the vast Ethiopian military concentrations or the enormous Ethiopian manpower resources. On the contrary, we are getting more and more confident of our people's and our revolution's forces. We have asserted since the outset that the offensive that seeks to liquidate the Eritrean revolution is a mere night dream that gets defeated by daylight. Whoever has followed the developments that have already taken place and the current developments on the Eritrean arena is clearly aware of the soundness of what we asserted before the offensive.

It is important that I point out here what Mengistu Haile Mariam has said, namely: From the beginning of 1975 until June 1978, Ethiopia lost 32,000 militia members, 13,000 regular troops and 4 billion dollars.

We wonder, had the Ethiopian military government employed these resources to build Ethiopia's economy, wouldn't this have been more beneficial for the Ethiopian people?

Considering that the Eritrean revolution, with its modest resources, has inflicted these enormous losses in 3 years only, isn't it possible that Ethiopia will suffer more losses if it persists in its fanatic course in the Eritrean arena?

Who will ultimately lose as a result of continuation of the war?

We have at our disposal more accurate information on the situation in Ethiopia and on the starvation developing there. This starvation is due to two reasons:

First, the regime has thrown all the productive forces that have a role in the stage of the democratic national revolution into the losing battles. The evidence is the economic stagnation experienced in all the spheres of production in Ethiopia.

Second, it has employed all the economic resources in a losing war at the expense of domestic development in Ethiopia--development which constitutes the guarantee for political stability.

I conclude by saying that despite the fascist actions we have encountered at the hands of the Ethiopian military regime, the Eritrean revolution still abides by its principled position of settling the conflict peacefully and through negotiations without any preconditions by either side, provided that this secures for us all our national rights and that we reach formulas that preserve the common interests of the two neighboring peoples.

This does not at all mean that we intend to put down the arms. On the contrary, we will put our finger more firmly on the trigger to foil any chauvinistic plan seeking to destroy the democratic accomplishments that we have achieved throughout 18 years of struggle. We believe that the pivotal issue in the Red Sea area is the Eritrean issue.

Unless this issue is settled, the problems will continue and their continuation means hampering the entire progressive movement in the area generally.

[Question] Should we proceed to talk about the Eritrean national unity and organizational cohesion?

[Ahmad Nasir] I would like to correct a major point, namely that national unity is already achieved. Perhaps you mean the unity of the revolution's instrument. This unity imposed itself on us strongly after the recent developments. We are now required to reconsider numerous issues at the organizational, administrative and economic levels so as to adapt to the new situation in a manner that guarantees continued abidance by the principles of war--a war most of whose results have been in our interest.

Our attempts to achieve unity of the revolution's instrument were repeatedly foiled in the past despite our eagerness to continue the dialogue between the various sides without disregarding the political situation of the Eritrean revolution generally. This required formulating a visualization that takes this fact into consideration.

After exhausting discussions, we have been able to reach advanced formulas at the theoretical level. There are also some initial steps that are being witnessed by the Eritrean arena and that are linked with what we have accomplished theoretically. All the sides are working to translate practically what has been agreed upon. There are some technical issues that require that the proper grounds be prepared for them in order that the contents of the agreements be implemented in a better manner and at the earliest opportunity possible.

The agreement concluded recently between the ELF /Eritrean Liberation Front/ and the EPLF /Eritrean People's Liberation Front/ is proceeding well. This agreement calls for adopting a single military strategy to be implemented by the revolution's army and for implementing plans centrally without creating sensitivities as to who leads this or that side.

The agreement further calls for holding joint symposiums for the revolution army generally under the supervision of the Joint Supreme Political Command, for joint information and for joint social and information committees working within the framework of the plans drawn up by the Joint Supreme Political Command. A magazine, called AL-WAHDAH /UNITY/, will also be published and will act as the mouthpiece of the two organizations on the Eritrean arena.

As for the unification congress, the date for its convocation has not yet been set. In preparation for its convocation, both organizations have been asked to prepare separately studies on certain issues agreed upon by the Supreme Political Command.

Later on, each side will present its studies to the Supreme Political Command for approval. In the light of these studies, the time for convening this unification congress will be set. A single democratic national organization and a single political command for the Eritrean revolution are to emanate from this congress.

As for the PLF /Popular Liberation Forces/, despite our problems with them and despite the daily problems arising from the faulty policies followed by these forces under the leadership of Osman Saleh Sabbe, we have not made our decisions and drawn up our policies in reaction to these forces. We had to be objective, considering that there is a political situation that has to be dealt with politically.

When the political equations became complicated as a result of the diverse political dissertations presented by each side, we presented a visualization that guarantees the political and organizational rights of this organization which we know exists outside the Eritrean arena but which does not have a

single fighter in this arena. We sought through this to secure the unity of the Eritrean revolution's instrument, regardless of the presence of the PLF as an organization at the practical level.

These groups rely primarily on propaganda in the international arena only. The political framework that we, as the ELF, presented and that gained the respect of all the parties concerned, except for the leadership of the PLF organization, called for the following:

First, considering that the ELF will hold its third national congress and that the current leadership of our organization will hand over its powers to this congress, we have given the so-called Central Council--the leadership of the PLF--the right to attend this congress so that we may all be active members with the right to vote and nominate candidates in the congress, provided that the Eritrean people elect through their Eritrean congress whomever they deem to be qualified to lead the national action in the future.

In other words, if the congress elects the Central Council in its entirety, then the present leadership of the ELF would be fully bound by what the congress decides.

We consider this a political and an organizational right.

Second, that the army--if the PLF truly has an army--join the Eritrean liberation army, provided that each official of the PLF army be absorbed with his current duties.

Third, that offices in the fraternal and friendly countries be merged and that the qualified element be assigned to them, regardless of his previous affiliations. This shall be done in coordination with the PLF leadership under Osman.

These offices shall be under the supervision of the Executive Committee until the convocation of the third national congress. Excuse me for not spelling out the data and venue of this congress for security reasons.

Fourth, until the congress is convened, elements of the PLF leadership shall be entrusted with duties parallel in nature to those of the Revolutionary Council members.

Despite all this, this leadership has refused to respond to this objective approach proposed by the ELF, relishing its line that fails to serve the Eritrean people's national interests, even though this leadership claims differently.

As for the latest developments in the PLF, they are natural for a simple reason. Any meeting not established on clear and principled bases is a meeting of interests. When the interests binding the parties involved disappear, their disagreement appears. This is natural.

Today, conflicting statements have been made by the two factions of the PLF--the faction represented by Osman Saleh Sabbe and the faction represented by Osman Ajib Abu Bakr Jama. One faction accuses the other of apostasy, embezzlement and of tampering with the resources and the other accuses the first of adventurism and irresponsibility.

This disagreement had to attract our attention. However, we have not found in the statements of either faction any positive response to the issue of unity. Rather, this splintering of the PLF indicates that a fourth organization will be hatched on the Eritrean arena and signals the birth of a new divisive phenomenon.

Considering that the PLF in its entirety has not risen to the level of an organization, the term that applies to these people, without any exaggeration, is the term "political phenomenon." What is surprising is that through its fragmentation, this phenomenon aspires to become two actual organizational entities.

We conclude from all this the soundness of what the ELF has been saying since 1970, namely that any division can only create further division. An examination of the history of divisions on the arena asserts this fact clearly.

In 1970, a group broke away and called itself the PLF. The leader of that breakaway was Osman Sabbe. In 1976, the PLF was exposed to further division and Osman again formed a third organization. Now, the same group that he formed is splitting into two. The only solution for which every loyal Eritrean is eager is the solution that establishes the united democratic national organization as projected by the ELF which still clings to this projection.

This is not all and we must talk again in the future.

8494

CSO: 4402

BRIEFS

SANDINIST GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZED--Socialist Ethiopia today recognized the Provisional Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua led by the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN). In a statement, a spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed admiration for the great victories scored by the FSLN over the oppressive Somoza regime and reactionary collaborators. The Foreign Ministry spokesman said that since the FSLN struggle was an integral part of the struggle of oppressed peoples of the world, its victory was a further success for the progressives of the world in their struggle against imperialism, neocolonialism, racism and apartheid. The spokesman also said that the broad masses of Ethiopia attach great importance to this victory. He expressed the conviction that the sons and daughters of Nicaragua would continue to struggle against oppression and exploitation. Voicing the desire of Socialist Ethiopia to see peace, justice, equality and democracy prevail in Nicaragua, the spokesman called on all peace-loving and democratic forces to extend support to the bitter struggle to strengthen the social and political order. The spokesman said that Ethiopia has pledged its support to the FSLN in the political, moral and diplomatic fields. The spokesman condemned the puppet regime set up by the imperialist and reactionary forces in an attempt to block the victories of the broad masses of Nicaragua, which had now been achieved through a life-and-death struggle. The spokesman warned that the democratic, progressive and peace-loving forces would fight jointly against such plots. [Excerpts] [Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 19 Jul 79 LD/EA]

CSO: 4407

GOLD PRODUCTION IN STEADY DECLINE

Libreville L'UNION in French 15 Jun 79 pp 1,5

[Article by Ngoyo Moussavou Bikoko: "Gold Production Dropped in the Lastourville Region"]

[Excerpts] The minister of state for mines, energy and hydraulic resources, Edouard-Alexis Mbouy-Boutzit, went to Lastourville on Wednesday, 13 June 1979, to meet with representatives of SOGAREM [Gabonese Mining Exploration and Exploitation Company] working at the Ndangui gold mine.

The gold production of the Lastourville (Ndangui) region is now reportedly facing numerous problems which have caused production to drop drastically. In 1970, Minister of State Mbouy-Boutzit explained, yearly gold production stood at 350 kilograms. In 1974 it dropped by three-quarters of that volume, sounding the knell in 1974, incidentally, of the spasmodic activities of SOGAREM. In 1978, of the 30 kilograms of national gold production Lastourville turned out only 14 kilograms. And in 1979 no sale has been registered officially even though a production of 2 kilograms in 6 months is the figure being quoted.

This drop in production has undoubtedly seriously undermined the sound operation of SOGAREM because of the fact that sales themselves have tumbled while the profits realized are--they too--ridiculously small. There has been a shortage of funds for the purchase of gold for lack of subsidies allocated by the government. This has led to smuggling and to a system of barter which have assumed alarming proportions. Since the end of 1977, one of the officials explained, the gold workers have never made profits through "regular" channels.

The number of workers [in the sector] has also followed the same downward trend. In 1974 these workers totaled between 2,000 and 2,500. Today they barely number about 100. And yet, Minister of State Mbouy-Boutzit continued, the government is making considerable efforts to encourage the gold washers to produce more. From 250 CFA francs, the price per gram of gold has climbed to 750 grams. It is not possible to go higher, the minister conceded, Gabon having already reached the maximum price level of the world market.

There is also the problem of the gold deposits: The mines have become old and exhausted while the reserves are very low.

BRIEFS

PORT TRAFFIC DOWN--The administrative council of the Office of Ports and Roadsteads of Gabon (OPRAG) which met on 6 March of this year stressed that traffic in Gabonese ports decreased in 1978, following the congestion in the port of Owendo until 1977. Traffic fell at a "vertiginous" rate for construction materiel, which almost disappeared during the second semester of 1977. However, the importation of various goods is experiencing a tendency toward stabilization following the spectacular decline in 1977. Prospects for the 1979 traffic remained somber in March. However, imports should stabilize and a recovery was expected in Port-Gentil. Nevertheless, the opening of the Transgabonais should entail the transfer of traffic from this port to Owendo, where it could amount to between 100,000 and 200,000 tons per year. The situation in the OPRAG is "serious" because of a lack of financial receipts and because of administrative disorganization, despite the fact that progress has been made in the administration. The administrative council made a number of decisions regarding an administrative reorganization. [Excerpts] [Paris EUROPE OUTREMER in French No 591, Apr 79 p 34]

CSO: 4400

RAWLINGS ASKS FOR UNDERSTANDING FOR REVOLUTION

London WEST AFRICA in English 9 Jul 79 pp 1197, 1199

[Interview with Jerry Rawlings, chairman of Armed Forces Revolutionary Council], by Nii K. Bentsi-Enchill in Accra]

[Excerpts]

The Chairman of the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council, Flight-Lt. Jerry Rawlings, in an interview with Nii K. Bentsi-Enchill gives his reactions to overseas pressures for an end to executions in Ghana. This interview took place shortly before Flight-Lt. Rawlings addressed students who had demonstrated against the US Embassy and the Nigerian and British High Commissions

QUESTION: Chairman, how do you assess the progress of the revolution?

ANSWER: The message we are trying to pass on to the working man, the exploited man in this country, seems to be getting across. But I must say we are running into some problems here and there because this kind of revolution is certainly not in the interests of the man who has acquired wealth by influence. I mean illegitimate wealth, and what we are doing is certainly not in his interest. And he is doing everything possible, you know, to put obstacles in our way. That is what you can see happening. There are foreign countries trying to cut off aid to us, you see. And this to me is what can hamper us because if we were really that independent economically we could pursue our own destiny as we see fit. Living on outside aid really makes it difficult. Of course, some of our soldiers have been over-enthusiastic about this exercise and some have been carrying out their own one-man show. This, of course, is frightening the poor farmer away

Revival of national spirit

Q: Would it be correct to say you by now have an idea of who in this country is acting against the revolution?

A: Well, so far as the outsiders are concerned, yes. There is very little we can do against this. I mean, let's face it, they are trying to protect their own interests too and what we are doing here could have its repercussions within their own countries so everything must be done to sabotage what's going on here.

Q: At the moment the pressure is on oil and food. What is the plan with our own oil?

I understand that the information given by the SMC was inaccurate.

A: Well, it's quite accurate. I mean, even if we were to divert all that oil into our requirements here it wouldn't last at all. It's inadequate. What I would question anyway is the agreement that was entered into with those companies. I think that ought to be looked into.

Q: I understand it is high grade oil as opposed to low grade as we were informed.

A: I honestly don't know about that. We have been so pressured by what we are trying to do. When the steam comes down we have got to check out those areas too. But in the meantime we definitely need oil from wherever we can get it.

Q: Have there been any complications between the AFRC, the civilian governmental machinery, and the countries that might help us?

Demands from Nigeria

A: I don't know, but Nigeria, for instance, has reduced our 90-day credit to about 30 days, which has put us in a very precarious position, and I believe Nigeria is demanding that we pay up our debts by the 15th or they will cut off the oil altogether. Meanwhile, we have had a report that there is some technical problem with the tanker that is supposed to be bringing in the oil and there is no way we can check on the truth of this information. I mean, it would be most unfortunate if Nigeria should try to sabotage what is going on. I sincerely hope not because we need her as much as she needs us.

Q: What is the situation with other West African countries?

A: Yes, representations have been made over the measures that were taken, the executions, but we sent delegations to see the countries like Ivory Coast and Upper Volta to ask them to lift this blockade against us. Because what we are trying to do in this country is in the interests of Ghana, of the vast majority of ten or eleven million people

Q: What about Britain and the US? What pressure is coming from them?

A: We are not sure of their stand as yet. Of course, we had the British High Commissioner here the other day carrying a message about the executions too. Meanwhile we were made to understand that they wouldn't want to interfere with our internal affairs. But I believe they want some kind of guarantee that the executions would not go on. We do not have to go out of our way to make them feel that we are having to do things their way. As a matter of fact, the decision was made to punish certain criminals for certain offences. To set the necessary example. Let's get on with it.

Worrying pattern of voting

Q: There has been rumour of a possible civilian coalition government.

A: Well, this has been thought of to prevent a potentially explosive situation. There is some worry over a certain pattern of voting which might arouse tribal differences. A coming together of political leaders might be in the interest of the country. Anyone with the nation's interests at heart will see that 75 to 80 per cent approve of the AFRC and of what is going on. Any politician who is against is showing the kind of selfishness we are trying to get rid of.

Q: What is the state of revolutionary discipline?

A: You will be glad to know that we are taking the necessary steps within the armed forces. Some soldiers who were caught for their excesses were arrested by fellow-soldiers who were aware of what constitutes anti-revolutionary actions.

Q: June 4 saw the overthrow of the old order in the armed forces. What shape will the forces take now?

A: The old order was not completely overthrown. What I tried on May 15 was a confrontation between officers and men to get the bad elements out who had led this country into ruin. The majority of the officers and men were against the corruption of a handful of personnel. Some senior officers who were rounded up in the insurrection who were clean, are with us.

Q: Is the case all over, or mainly in Accra?

A: You could say, principally in Accra because the Ministry of Defence is here. Anyway, the movement was against corruption, not against the hierarchy, and the arrests of officers in general was a tactical move.

Q: Would the other ranks agree with you on that?

A: Those who just arrested officers were unable to articulate the movement. That was simple identification of officers as all-responsible. I have gone round the units explaining how some officers had their hands tied as you or I. The ranks agreed that no big man in a responsible post can indulge in anti-social practices without the collaboration of the small man down the ladder. Corruption had a chain reaction. So it is difficult to draw the line among those responsible for damaging the country. We all know the worst damage was done by civilians, not military personnel, who only held administrative positions but allowed these civilians to make their huge profits.

Relations with politicians

Q: Ordinary people tend not to identify with our politicians. What relationship will a more revolutionary armed forces have with a civilian government?

A: We are trying to get the public to take up its responsibility about its own government. The armed forces is not a time bomb behind a civilian government. No one institution should be so. I don't believe in the bullet. And the public has the nation as its responsibility.

Q: You have spoken about "cleaning up the system" but won't the same abuses recur if the system is left untouched?

A: It is not a question of systems but of personalities. Look, the United States and the Soviet Union are both on the move. It's the people in responsible positions. We have to find the right people in the right places to do the correct thing.

AFRC EXECUTIONS, EXCESSES SEEN HAMPERING PROSPECTIVE CIVILIAN LEADERS

Paris LE MONDE in French 28 Jun 79 p 1

[Article: "Bulletin from Abroad--Purge in Ghana"]

[Excerpts] The AFRC [Armed Forces Revolutionary Council], in office in Accra for 3 weeks, is continuing its "purge campaign" expeditiously. On an empty lot at Camp Teshie, located near the Ghanaian capital, a few hundred people witnessed at dawn on Tuesday, 26 June 1979, the execution of 6 toppled military leaders. The executed men had been condemned to death at a closed trial for "illegal enrichment" and "economic sabotage."

Where will the zeal for "purgings" of the new masters of Accra stop? Refusing to draw aside the curtain of secrecy which surrounds the holding of the trials, the team in power has just "institutionalized" summary judgments by legalizing the "special tribunals" established on the morrow of the coup d'etat of 4 June 1979.

The thirst for revenge of the junior officers and noncommissioned officers against some of their former chiefs, corrupt and discredited, seems to be inexhaustible. After witnessing for 7 years the enrichment--admittedly, often scandalous--of the members of the ruling junta, the "small fry" are settling scores today with a degree of brutality in keeping with their frustrations and long-contained anger. Some 50 former dignitaries, now on the point of being tried, risk facing the firing squad.

In fact, everything indicates that Capt Jerry Rawlings is increasingly being "outdone" by the rank and file of the armed forces of which he only claims to be a faithful spokesman. With the probable encouragement of a few officers more "radical" than he, corporals and privates are imposing their point of view. But will they be able to play this game with impunity for a long time? By introducing political violence into a country which has never before given in to it, the leaders of the revolution of 4 June 1979 wish to seize the imagination of people and mark their advent to power in an indelible manner. But they have already generated new grudges in the ranks of a broken army.

By deliberately humiliating their officers--some of them were shorn before their men--and then by staging a blood bath, the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council is not easing the task of future civilian leaders.

REVOLUTION SEEN ON COURSE BUT PACE IN QUESTION

Paris DEMAIN L'AFRIQUE in French 18 Jun 79 pp 44-45

[Article by Moriba Megassouba: "Four Hours With Sekou Toure"]

[Excerpts] "Sekou Toure, we swear to remain faithful to you though the heavens fall and the earth splits asunder." The concluding words of the oath of the pioneers of the Youth of the African Democratic Revolution (JRDA) die out in the frenzied rhythm of the "djimbes" (tom-toms). In the imposing hall of the People's Palace at Conakry on that evening of 1 June, the child is king. True budding performers, although quite small, were really brilliant on stage, communicating their enthusiasm to the thousands of spectators who had come, to celebrate with them, the International Day [as published] of the Child.

Although he acknowledges being well aware of the displays of affection by the young, the Guinean chief of state, it is said by his entourage, is careful not to encourage some sort of personality cult. And the man who had received us for more than an hour and kept us at lunch almost a whole afternoon succeeded in dispelling many fixed notions from our minds. Skillful staging--it has been said--by a consummate player? Perhaps. Reception without formal attire, in the African fashion, by a master of the house manifesting a holy honor of stifling occidental-style courtesy. Certainly. In any event one cannot fail to be struck by the extreme simplicity of the premises and of the master of this house and by the frugality of the meal which would certainly mar the tables of a good number in the ranks of the revolution.

When he is not speaking, Sekou Toure is easy to get along with. A truly exhilarating companion, he animates and maintains the conversation.

Bantering remarks incite gales of laughter. The revolution is not a sad affair! Even if it is perpetually harking back to watchwords calling for intensification of efforts already made. "Produce still more and more." It is not at all melancholy even if religion--in the instance, Islam--is summoned to the rescue to point it in its struggle against Cheytan,

the anti-God, reaction. A paradox? One may well think so. But Sekou Toure seems to be the man to take upon himself the contradictions in the society under construction in his country.

But is the revolution still as dynamic as in the days of the extraordinary popular current which swept colonization away and carried the Democratic Party of Guinea [PDG] to power? Surely the Guineans have not at all burned the idols of a recent past. This is beyond question.

It is perhaps in this aspiration toward "the best of things"--the end of change is not at all perceived--where the problems which the government apparatus seems to have experienced with the Ismael Toure affair reside. As spectacular as his exclusion from the government and the political bureau, the return to prominence of the half-brother of the Guinea chief of state does not mean that all difficulties have been overcome. Indeed, a communique did approve that return but nowhere was it a question of "reconciliation." In the Guinea capital, where not long ago there were only whispers, tongues are wagging more freely today. "A result of its being out in the open," a polytechnic student, encountered outside the Independence Palace, confided to me. Beyond a simple conflict of personalities, it appears that the difference between Ismael Toure and his brother, which has burst out into the open, is essentially an example of two opposed styles of putting into operation the program aimed at a new surge in the economy, a sort of Guinea-style "NEP" [New Economic Policy]. Some including Ismael Toure, would like to proceed rapidly, "to charge ahead," according to my student informant. Others--among whom Mamady Keita and Lansanna Diane are readily classed--are supposed to favor "making haste slowly." An old quarrel, like the first worldwide socialist revolution pitting "economists" into opposition against "doctrinaires." Considered to be one of the party's leading "thinkers," after Sekou Toure, General Diane, during a rambling conversation, confided to us that it was necessary for the revolution to maintain a "mystique." "That is the motive force of every society, of every revolution."

For the time being, the "supreme head of the revolution," who has reaffirmed the "irreversible nature" of the Guinea socialist choices in a speech delivered to the National Syndical Council of National Workers Union of Guinea (UNTE), seems to lean away from the side of the "pure hard-line." More, he made known the necessity of eliminating, from the wheels of the PDG, the "minority of rapacious individuals who place their own selfish interests ahead of those of labor and the workers."

Even though there was, in the ministerial reshuffling of 1 June, no outstanding departure from the government, it must on the other hand be noted that "empires" were abolished--those tentacular super-ministries--and in particular, that of the Economy and Finances, which was previously headed, before his exclusion from the government, by Ismael Toure, who

is now found at the head of the Ministry of Mining and Geology. Thus the Guinea head of state has somewhat clipped the prerogatives, which were a bit excessive, of the "masters" of the "empires," which, however, retain their order of precedence.

But President Sekou Toure has another reason to be disturbed: The spread of corruption; getting things out into the open has not been without giving rise to a veritable "affariste"* mentality among certain party members. Toure believes that, vigorously denouncing the "corrupt or counterrevolutionary elements camouflaged within the PDG." It is that which justifies, in the opinion of partisans of "making haste slowly," the government's present policy.

Prudence for the purpose of safeguarding what socialism has gained, on the one side, and accelerated economic growth with sacrifice, where necessary, of some principles without, for all that, placing the socialist choice in doubt, on the other. Between those two, there tends to enter a tenacious hope of seeing the "drudges" of labor mark a pause and benefit a little from the fruits of their labor. After the ministerial reshuffle, the replacement of the decision-making leaders of the PDG planned in the course of this month should provide other indications of the pace which is going to be imposed upon the revolution.

* [An untranslatable word meaning a politician who uses insider knowledge for personal financial gain.]

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CSO: 4400

ANGLICANS EXPRESS GRATITUDE, LOYALTY TO REVOLUTION

Conakry HOROYA in French 3 May 79 p 4

[Communication by the Council of the District of the Anglican Church in Guinea to President Ahmed Sekou Toure: "The Anglican Mission in Guinea's Strategy"]

[Excerpts] For the activists of both sexes in the capital, for the Christian community in particular, legitimate pride, great honor, and a glorious greeting were evident at receiving in Conakry from 7 to 8 March 1979 his grace, Monsignor Coggan, primate of the Anglican Church of England and primate of the Anglican community in the world, as well as his wife, Mrs Coggan, and his entourage.

The nature and substance of the greeting given to them by the party-government of Guinea was an eloquent demonstration, among so many others, underscoring once again the complete readiness of the revolution to face effectively the socioideological situations and problems presented by the concept of the dialectic link between revolution and religion.

Very pleased with the high mark of sympathy, consideration and honorable distinction evidenced by the leaders of our party-government at all levels, the Council of the District of the Anglican Church in Guinea was gratified by the flawless organization of this visit, resulting in success worthy of the good hostly traditions of our country.

To this effect the Council of the District has the distinguished honor of transmitting to you the deepest feelings of sincere thanks and gratitude of the Christian community.

The council takes advantage of this opportunity to underscore to you the indefectible attachment of the faithful Anglicans to the principles and noble ideals of our revolution and the party-government of Guinea.

For this evidence of brotherly hospitality, moral comfort, and for the perfect and harmonious cohesion which links the Christian community to

its revolution, to its country, and to its uncontested guide of the revolution, Monsignor Coggan asks you, comrade president, to find here the expression of his profound admiration and episcopal consideration for everything that you have done to have made his visit possible and his stay pleasant in Conakry, capital of the Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea.

Ready for the revolution!

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CS0: 4400

RETURNEES WELCOMED BACK, URGED TO HELP NATION-BUILDING

Conakry HOROYA in French 9 May 79 p 1

[Article: "Notebook of the Activist"]

[Excerpts] Our fellow-citizens, who resided abroad earlier, are returning in successive groups to Guinea after several years of absence. Thus, it is with real satisfaction that the cadres of the revolutionary local authorities greet them and welcome their return home.

This welcome is all the more sincere, more legitimate, and more honest as the nation in construction needs the brawn and brains of each of its sons. To avoid this obligation represents another act of treason which posterity will appreciate. To be sure, colonialism has not bequeathed us a ready-made paradise but on the contrary a legacy of underdevelopment marked by innumerable difficulties.

Now that we are independent we must dress our wounds, open workyards, build schools, and improve our agricultural land through the diversified efforts of the FAPA's [District Agricultural-Livestock Raising Farms] and FAC's [Communal Agricultural Farms] and create life out of the void. This reconstruction effort is undoubtedly difficult, but it is ours and on that score it behooves us to do it.

As true sons of the country we all have the imperative duty to do so, each according to his capabilities.

Thus, by definitively returning to their big national home it seems that this first group has understood and drawn a lesson from adventures beyond our borders. Better, by blending with the laboring masses through productive efforts under way in the country, our brothers have understood the value and scope of the appeal of the supreme leader of the revolution relating to the unity of the forces for national reconstruction.

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CSO: 4400

TOURE JUSTIFIES COOPERATION WITH ALL COUNTRIES

Conakry HOROYA in French 23 May 79 pp 3,6

[Speech by President Ahmed Sekou Toure responding to the good wishes of the diplomatic corps in Conakry; Conakry; date not given]

[Excerpts] Excellencies, gentlemen of the diplomatic and consular corps,

Dear comrades, members of the national politburo [of the PDG--Democratic Party of Guinea] and of the government,

In the name of the people of Guinea and specifically in the name of their party-government, we would like to thank the diplomatic corps for the honor that it has done us in organizing on the occasion of each 14 May contact with the national executive of the party-government and also in making of this visit an occasion to reiterate its feelings of solidarity and its esteem for the people of Guinea. Finally, we commend you for always seizing this occasion to reassert the will of the peoples whom you represent to cooperate effectively and in lasting manner with the Guinean government.

At the Congress [of the PDG] we have asserted a sincere wish for cooperation at the African as well as the international levels. Some will say: "Guinea has changed its line. Guinea, which talks of socialist revolution, wishes to cooperate with everyone." There are three answers to such assertions: An ideological answer and two practical answers.

The ideological answer is that if one knows oneself, if one is convinced of the justness of what one does, one cannot have a complex. Quite the opposite, one will rather evidence personality, dignity, and determination in everything that one says and does. But if one is afraid to cooperate with someone it is because one knows that one is susceptible to being converted, to becoming an instrument. We believe that this can occur only among individuals who have neither faith, nor goal, nor morals, nor principle. That is no longer our case. Indeed, if we are what we are it is because we have wanted to be what we are. If the others are what they are

it is that they may be today what they have wanted to be. If we want them to respect us as we are, we must respect them as they are. If we have used our freedom to make our choice, they too have made their choice. Our nature does not change and relations with others cannot change us. We organize our life according to our way just as they have arranged their life in their way. Let us use everything that can serve us mutually. Everyone has developed well in the context of his thinking. Finally, we shall indeed see who will best be able to realize his goals. This peaceful confrontation of options will divide the ones from the others in history.

Accordingly, diversity must not mean opposition. On the contrary, diversity represents an opportunity for emulation, comparison and rectification.

The first practical answer is as follows:

Let us look at the "great powers." Our concept says that great powers do not exist. For us there are no great men. It is God who knows who the great man is; it is society which knows who the great man is. The one who will have been useful to society--that is the great man. But let us use the current idea. Not all the so-called great powers have adopted the same system as we. Yet they cooperate, they do indeed. The United States cooperates with China. China cooperates with Japan. The Soviet Union cooperates with the United States, and so on. And why should we too not be free to cooperate with whomever we wish, with whomever it can be in our national interest to cooperate? That is the first practical answer.

A second practical reason relates to need. It is not a matter of friendship with others. It is a matter of what one has and what one does not have, that is, of what one lacks. For example, in Guinea there is a lot of bauxite which the world needs. There is iron, gold, uranium, copper, and people talk with confidence about the possible existence of oil. It is no credit to us if our subsoil is rich. However our merit would be, knowing that it has potentials, in improving it for the country's well being.

But if a partner says that he can offer us a factory or strive to improve our potentials jointly with us, we cannot but recognize our reciprocal interests. Should a partner tell us that he is prepared to advance us money to enable us to improve such or such potential with such reasonable guarantee of reimbursement, the nature of our national interest prompts us to accept the association. Well then, even if we have contrary ideas we cannot refuse to accept his reasonable conditions of investment to the extent of our partner's capital in his country. We, too, will use in our country what in all justice we shall draw by way of yields from our joint effort. Each one is free in the context of his option to use his just profit drawn from the joint effort. In such a case how could we refuse cooperation?

That is why we say completely knowledgeably that for the well-being of the people, for the progress of the nation, any factor of economic development is a means.

That is why, when we speak of cooperation in the sense of respect for the identity of those who reach an agreement to do common work, what is involved is the equality of the partners, of loyalty in their relations. Also involved is the collective responsibility of the partners.

Thus, the 11th Congress [of the PDG] was right in proclaiming that the Democratic Party of Guinea must seek cooperation with all those countries which trust the Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea. On this occasion we officially assert once again our complete readiness to pursue such cooperation with the states that you represent vis-a-vis the Guinean government.

Thus, we must address to all the governments which have made their contribution to Guinea's economic, cultural, scientific, and technical development our sincere wishes and tell them that in Guinea there is no room for ingratitude because, we stress, we are a believing people.

What does the Koran mean by "Shaytan"? It is the embodiment of ingratitude. All those who have given us no matter how little service can be reassured of our gratitude, whether they belong to the same system as we or an opposite system. They rendered us service. We shall proclaim aloud everywhere and without a complex that they have helped us and for that reason we shall be eternally grateful to them.

2662

CSO: 4400

GUINEA

BRIEFS

AGREEMENTS WITH FRANCE--France and Guinea have signed three framework agreements on economic, financial and technical co-operation in Paris. On the last day of an official visit, Guinean Prime Minister Lansana Beavogui and French Premier Raymond Barre also signed a friendship and co-operation declaration and discussed two specific development projects, a dam on the Konkoure River and a sugar-refining complex. They agreed that French companies should continue to prospect in Guinea for uranium and offshore oil. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 9 Jul 79 p 1245]

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL DENUNCIATION--The French section of the human rights body Amnesty International denounced the human rights situation in Guinea. A communique coincided with the signing of co-operation agreements between France and Guinea. The human rights body said that several prisoners of conscience were still detained in Guinea, especially in Boiro Camp in Conakry. Many had been condemned after trials at which they were not present. Some had not been granted the right to defend themselves while others had not been tried. Moreover, their prison conditions were very severe, the organisation said. However, it expressed satisfaction at the Government's initiative in setting free some prisoners of conscience since May 1978 and asked the authorities to free all prisoners of conscience and those who have never been tried. The organisation also asked the Guinean authorities to permit it to send a fact-finding mission to Guinea on conditions of prisoners. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 9 Jul 79 p 1245]

CSO: 4420

FIRST MAJOR EURO-DOLLAR SYNDICATED LOAN SIGNED IN LONDON

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 16 Jul 79 p 3

[Text]

AN agreement to loan Kenya \$200 million has been signed in London between representatives of the Kenya Government and several international banking institutions.

The loan will be used to finance priority development projects in the 1979/83 National Development Plan as well as help offset the effects of balance of payments deficits in 1979 and 1980.

The syndicate of major banks is from the UK, Europe, North America and Japan.

National Westminster Bank is the lead manager. The other managers are: Bank of Montreal, The Bank of Tokyo Ltd, Barclays International Group, Chase Manhattan Ltd, Citicorp International Group, Deutsche Bank Compagnie Financiere, Luxembourg, First Chicago Ltd, The Fuji Bank Ltd, Manufacturers Hanover Ltd, Midland Bank Ltd, The Royal Bank of Canada (London) Ltd and Standard Chartered Bank Ltd.

The loan is expected to increase Kenya's foreign exchange earning capacity in such sectors as agriculture, manufacturing and tourism.

It carries an interest of one per cent a year over the London Interbank offered rate and will be repaid in 10 equal half-yearly instalments, beginning in 18 months' time.

During the signing ceremony on Friday Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Finance Mr. Nicholas Ng'ang'a, said the poor performance of Kenya's economy in 1978 had resulted mainly from balance of payments difficulties.

Mr. Ng'ang'a pointed out that the severe drop in the export prices of coffee and tea in the latter part of the year had had an adverse effect on Kenya's trade.

Although this was somewhat offset by an improvement in the invisible balance and inflow of long-term capital Kenya had to draw on K£77 million foreign

exchange reserves.

That adverse trend in the balance of payments experienced in 1978 was expected to continue this year and next year as well.

Mr. Ng'ang'a however informed the bankers that Kenya's economic performance since independence had been commendable.

He said that, during the year following independence, Kenya's production grew at a rate of 6.5 per cent, an achievement considered to be among the best in the world.

But the rate of growth in 1978 fell compared with 1977 and the outlook for the immediate future is that the rate may be lower in 1980.

Mr. Ng'ang'a attributed this to heavy rains which led to reduced coffee production in 1978, which in turn affected production in the manufacturing sectors. All this he said, was further aggravated by regional problems which led to a decline in Kenya's exports to the Eastern African markets.

Institutions

Represented at the signing ceremony were officials from financial institutions, officials from the Kenya High Commission here including High Commissioner, Shadrack Kimani, and the Governor of the Central Bank of Kenya, Mr. Duncan Ndegwa, as well as Mr. Ng'ang'a and the international bankers.

The large number of banks taking part in Kenya's first major Euro-dollar syndicated loan is a clear indication of the confidence the banking institutions have in Kenya because of its political stability and the sound management of economy and finance, sources here observed.

KENYA

NJONJO ANNOUNCES VOTERS REGISTRATION EXTENSION

Njonjo's Announcement

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 16 Jul 79 pp 1

[Excerpt] People who have failed to register as voters have been given another week in which to do so.

This was announced by Attorney-General Charles Njonjo yesterday.

The deadline was originally fixed for yesterday, with a big rush expected from people keen to get a voter's card.

And, according to figures released by the Office of the President, 4,682,343 people out of a possible 6,432,830 had registered by Saturday.

Rift Valley Province was in the lead with 924,043, Eastern Province 792,188, Central 781,067, Nyanza 754,757, Western 584,044, Coast 474,553, Nairobi 276,774 and North-Eastern Province 91,900.

It is expected that by the end of the exercise, Western Province will have 754,000 people registered, Nyanza 1,160,000, Rift Valley 1,288,000, Nairobi 365,830, Central 990,000, North-Eastern 128,000, Eastern 1,106,000 and Coast Province 641,000.

The Attorney-General, speaking in Naivasha, said he hoped everyone aged 18 or over who had not registered would make use of the extension. Mr Njonjo said the Government wanted all eligible Kenyans to register in order to exercise their constitutional rights.

Announcement Welcomed

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 16 Apr 79 p 6

[Editorial]

[Excerpt]

YESTERDAY's announcement that the deadline for registration of voters has been extended by a week came as a surprise because, right until the weekend, all concerned were adamant that Sunday was the last day for the exercise. But the decision is to be welcomed, for many eligible voters, indeed a couple of million of them, would appear to have made up their minds not to register. These people, who are either foolish or ignorant, or who have been misled, will now have a final chance to secure the vote. If they still do not avail themselves of the opportunity, let them hold their peace and not, when it is too late, complain that they did not have a voice in the selection of their representatives to Parliament and the local authorities.

Even with two days left to the original July 15 deadline, more people had registered than the total of those who were eligible to vote in 1974, who numbered 4,611,244. This time the total will be much bigger, but until yesterday it had been feared that it would be nowhere near the figure of 8,432,820 eligible for the franchise. The next week should attract many of these apathetic people to registration centres and the Government, which has already done a great deal to publicise the exercise, should mount a massive new campaign in the Press, on radio and on television to drive home the message, that the vote is a precious right, but also that it is too important a tool of the democratic process to be wasted.

CSO: 4420

KENYANS 'NOT HAPPY' ABOUT ARAB OIL PRICE INCREASES

Nairobi SUNDAY NATION in English 15 Jul 79 p 6

[Article by Joe Kadhi]

[Text]

THE National Assembly last week approved the 1979-80 expenditure for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; but not before several MPs spoke their minds on Kenya's foreign policy and what they thought it should be like. In doing so a number of them openly attacked some countries which say they are friendly to Kenya but do not do much to prove that they mean what they say.

One man who deserves a pat on the back is the MP for Kilungu, who happens also to be the Government Chief Whip, Mr J.D. Kali. He boldly backed President Anwar Sadat's peace pact with Israel, and went so far as to call for the renewing of diplomatic relations with Israel "because African nations broke their relations with that country because of Egypt".

There will be thousands of Kenyans who will back Mr. Kali because they, like President Sadat, believe political problems can and should be solved by peaceful methods. Kenya's policy on the Middle East crisis is still not very clear but Kenyans are known throughout the world as lovers of peace, stability and progress. These are the principles followed by President Sadat and Kenyans should naturally not be ashamed to say clearly that they support him rather than war-like and trigger-happy Arabs who believe the only way of solving political problems is by taking up guns and

ambushing women and children.

It would be naive not to recognise that the Palestinians, like the Israelis, have a right to live in freedom. The Palestinian problems, however, can be solved in a more reasonable manner with the least bloodshed if the methods adopted by President Sadat are taken seriously by the rest of the world, and particularly African nations. I believe there is not a single Arab leader who has done as much good for the Palestinian cause as the pragmatic Egyptian President.

As Mr. Kali was speaking in Parliament members of the Arab League were still plotting against President Sadat, whom they have expelled from the league, and were making plans to bar him from attending the current OAU meeting in Monrovia.

Despite all the abuse heaped against him, President Sadat has engaged in intensive discussions with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin in an attempt to resolve the problems of establishing Palestinian autonomy. Though the Alexandria talks last week were not particularly successful, it was the first time in history that any Arab leader had made an attempt to talk to an Israeli leader about the problems of Palestinians. It is gratifying to note that the two leaders promised to try again next month in the Israeli city of Haifa.

If Kenya is to take any position on the Middle East crisis then the right side to take is that of peace, and Mr. Kali must be congratulated for fearlessly saying so.

While debating the Foreign Ministry expenditure several MPs expressed disappointment at the constant raising of oil prices by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) which, in the words of the MP for Lurambi North, Mr. Borudi Nabwera, "should be treated like an enemy by all mankind for running the world's economy."

It is impossible to talk about oil prices without thinking of our Arab brothers, who constitute 50 per cent of the Opec membership. Even the usually reserved Minister for Natural Resources, Mr. Mbiyu Koinange, said African countries had been held to ransom by the Arab world for a fault which was not theirs. Naturally, Kenya should do everything possible to strengthen ties with all brotherly Arab States, some of whom are members of the Organisation of African Unity. But, side by side with efforts to strengthen these ties, Kenya should frankly tell our brothers that we are not happy about their constant price-hikes of a commodity we can hardly do without — oil.

When we meet at OAU conferences they are truly our brothers, but when they are at Arab League conferences they are Arabs first and Africans second. It may be about time for another organisation of Black Africans to be formed so we too can have an inner circle which could provide a forum to discuss

true African problems. This is a suggestion Black African leaders at Monrovia should take seriously.

A new Nyayo spirit was evident during the debate on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs vote. For the first time, a number of issues which hitherto were taboo to talk about were castigated by MPs. A good example is what the MP for Starehe, Mr. Charles Rubia, had to say about Kenyan Ambassadors and High Commissioners abroad. As Mr. Rubia rightly said, these gentlemen are sent out to represent Kenya and are expected to do good work on behalf of their country. Very often the order of the day in the past was for our diplomats abroad to spend more time at cocktail parties or on shopping sprees rather than attend to the affairs of this nation.

As Mrs. Nyiva Mwendwa, MP for Kitui West, told Parliament, many of our diplomats had very little time for Kenyans when they sat in their posh offices away from Nairobi.

As I have pointed out before, I am not the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs but like the MPs, I am a free Kenyan and have every right to express my personal views even on matters concerning Kenya's foreign policy. As the MPs clearly showed in Parliament last week, we know who are our true friends are. That being the case why don't we strengthen our ties with them? Why?

PASSAGE OF MARRIAGE BILL WILL PROTECT WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 14 Jul 79 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text]

FOR the second time in three years, Members of Parliament this week threatened to shelve the Marriage Bill, giving as their reason for so doing that they want to preserve African traditional practices, which demand that men be regarded as and respected as the bosses in every household. One of the strongest opponents of the Bill is the MP for Chepalungu, Mr. Kimunai Soi, who had the audacity, albeit he was within his rights to exercise freedom of expression in Parliament, to suggest that men have every right to "teach women manners by beating them".

Apparently, the MP is opposed to the Bill because if it is passed no husband will have any right to inflict corporal punishment on his wife, notwithstanding any existing customs. It is strange that in this 20th century there still are some Africans, even in the ranks of the educated and among Members of Parliament who believe wives can only be taught lessons through slaps, blows and kicks!

This argument, even though it may be supported by some MPs, is not backed by logic. It is illogical to assume that women marry their husbands to learn lessons, be it through conventional methods of teaching or through corporal punishment. Moreover, MPs should be the first people in Kenya to oppose all crimes since, with or without the Bill, beating up one's wife is criminal.

There are many proposals under the Bill which some MPs feel go against African customs. The most controversial of these is a clause giving a wife the right to decide if her husband should take a second wife. In other words, no man can on his own decide to become polygamous without the consent of his wife — if the Bill is passed! Whatever the MPs say, this is a very fair proposi-

tion. Polygamy may in the past have been regarded as a prestigious and useful social habit which helped get rid of prostitution and illegitimacy. But that was in a past generation. Today, MPs and other members of the Kenyan society must look at the matter more objectively and see it the way it is. Polygamy has become one of the most serious problems in society. It breeds hatred between "rival" wives and causes widespread poverty in many African homes.

Be that as it may, the MPs should do a bit of homework and read the Bill more carefully. It does not seek the abolition of polygamy; rather it intends to make life more comfortable for those in polygamous homes. As the Attorney-General, Mr. Charles Njonjo, said when explaining the issue in Parliament, men should think about how they intend to look after their families before marrying more than one wife. As a matter of fact, Mr. Njonjo said marrying more than one wife would be legalised if the Bill was passed.

There are many virtues in the Bill which will correct a number of present-day social evils which are causing serious problems in many families. For example, there are many societies in Kenya which force young girls to marry elderly but rich men for the sake of money. Young children only 12 years of age are being forced by their parents to marry even before they are able to understand what life is all about. Clause 21 of the Bill seeks to solve this problem once and for all.

It says no male person shall marry under the age of 18, nor shall any female marry under the age of 16. Why anyone should oppose such a proposition, whose intention is clearly to protect children from exploitation, is difficult to understand. It is strange that some of our MPs appear to want to undermine women's rights which the Bill seeks to protect, yet at the same time they call for equality of all human beings.

From time immemorial women in Africa have been treated worse than dogs. They were used by men as beasts of burden and treated as mere chattels owned by their husbands. Women have been made to till the garden, produce and look after babies, and at the same time prepare meals for entire families. Even if it is passed, the Bill will not change much of the manner in which women are treated by their husbands in Kenya today, but at least it will protect their other rights including division of assets.

In this day and age Kenyans, and particularly parliamentarians, should not be seen as wanting to treat any member of our society as a second class person. All — men and women — must be accepted as equals. Our MPs will prove to the world that they respect this equality if and when they pass the Marriage Bill.

WHEAT SHORTAGE TO CONTINUE

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 13 Jul 79 p 5

[Text]

WHEAT Board officials are unable to say when the current shortage will end.

However, general manager Gerald Mahinda said yesterday that the situation could not get worse — if anything, it could only improve.

He said the Government was making every effort to ensure the availability of wheat.

The crop planted in January was about ready for harvesting, and the board was expecting to alleviate the shortage with it.

He said the Government would ensure that the country was fed, and wheat and bread would never be completely unavailable.

However, consumers in Nairobi said yesterday the city had run out of wheat flour.

Also earlier yesterday, Mr. Mahinda confirmed that he had received a telephone call from District Commissioner at the Coast informing him that the wheat flour shortage was critical in that area.

A Kitui trader claimed yesterday that an organisation in Nairobi had refused to sell him wheat flour unless he bought an equal amount of maize meal. He appealed to the board to look into this.

Housewives said their families were having to do without chapatis and bread.

They said the standard white loaf costing Sh. 1/70 was in short supply. However, enriched bread costing as much as 2/50 per loaf, was available.

Meanwhile, Mr. Bill Martin, the newly appointed general manager of the National Cereals and Produce Board — amalgamating the Wheat and Maize and Produce Boards — said yesterday he had not yet taken over officially.

He said once he had taken over, he would issue an official statement on wheat.

In Nairobi, consumers complained that wheat flour was being sold for as much as 9/50 per packet instead of the normal price of about 5/- a packet.

CSO: 4420

AUSTRALIA TO DONATE 30 MILLION SHILLINGS TO SETTLEMENT PROJECT

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 12 Jul 79 p 5

[Text] The Vice-President and Finance Minister, Mr Mwai Kibaki, and the Australian High Commissioner to Kenya, Mr Hugh Alexander Dunn, yesterday signed an agreement involving Sh 30 million, Australia is to give Kenya in the next three years

The money is for the development of Magarini Land Settlement Scheme near Malindi, Kilifi District. The agreement provides that the Kenya Government also commits Sh 43.6 million in the Magarini project, during the same period.

The entire project covers an area of 60,000 hectares and would settle about 4,000 families. The first phase involves 40,000 hectares and is expected to be ready in the first six years.

Mr Kibaki thanked the Australian government saying that the assistance was very important since it would help this country to settle people on what is right now arid or semi-arid land. A large portion of Kenya--in fact three-quarters of it--was very dry and if the current Magarini project proved a success, the experience and knowledge gained there could be applied in other parts of Kenya.

Australia, the Vice-President said, had remarkable knowledge in developing arid or semi-arid lands. Their experience would be very useful to Kenya which needed land to settle people.

He said if there were enough places to settle Kenyans it would help reduce the problem of landlessness. Also, the unemployed would be occupied on the land.

Mr Kibaki said this was the first time Australia was providing this kind of assistance to Kenya.

Ambassador Dunn pointed out that his country was interested in seeing this project at Magarini succeed. The signing of the agreement yesterday had

in fact formed a framework of economic cooperation between Australia and Kenya, he said.

The High Commissioner said Australia was proud to provide assistance to arid areas, pointing out that achievements at Magarini would probably be used in other parts of Kenya.

The Magarini programme involves land development, soil conservation, water development, road construction and the establishment of a works centre.

Also to be covered under the programme are agricultural extension services and general investigation station.

Supporting services such as in education and health would also be incorporated into the scheme.

Mr Dunn praised the people of Magarini area as well as the local administration there for their cooperation on the development of the scheme.

Mr Dunn added, "I am encouraged to hear that there may be a possibility of equipment being provided under another purchasing programme of the Kenya government.

"If this happened," he said, "then we may be able to restore the first phase of the project to the initially-planned tempo."

CSO: 4420

PYRETHRUM PRICES INCREASED 20 PERCENT

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 13 Jul 79 p 5

[Text] The Government has increased producer prices for pyrethrum by 20 percent. This is with effect from July 1, the Minister for Agriculture, Mr Jeremiah Nyagah, has announced.

The Kenya Pyrethrum Board has been authorised to increase the minimum rate paid on the crop from 7/- to 8/40 per kilo. The 20 percent price increase will apply to all grades of pyrethrum, the Minister said in a Press statement released yesterday.

The object of the price increase, the Minister said, is to stimulate production of the crop which pyrethrum, he noted, was enjoying "excellent demand in the international market."

The Minister first announced the price increase when he welcomed President Moi to officially open the Nakuru Agricultural Show, last Friday.

Mr Nyagah said that during the period 1977/78, Kenya produced 8,400 tons of pyrethrum against an export demand in excess of 15,000 tons.

According to the release Kenya needed to boost her output to the level 15,000 tons or more within the next few years if its normal share of the market was to be protected.

CSO: 4420

KENYA

BRIEFS

VOTER 'SMUGGLING' REPORTED--Some 5,000 people have been "smuggled" from Kilifi to register as voters in Mombasa area, Kilifi South MP Maurice Mboja claimed yesterday. He said the exercise was being carried out by some affluent Mombasa candidates whose coffers, he claimed, had been overfilled with foreign money. Mr Mboja said foreign money had poured into the country at this crucial time so that certain leaders could confuse the masses and buy their votes. --"Deceit"--"The whole exercise is a mockery of our freedom and democracy. It will result in us getting wrong leaders," he said. He advised wananchi not to be deceived to sell their freedom. If they register in area that they did not belong to, they would suffer a lot in the end, he said. He appealed to the government to investigate the matter. Mr Mboja said foreign money was also being used to sponsor candidates at the Coast to oppose "able" candidates. He said the methods being employed by some leaders to popularise themselves should be stopped immediately. [Text] [Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 17 Jul 79 p 3]

CSO: 4420

LIBERIA

KOTRA TO SET UP JOINT VENTURE TRADING COMPANY

Monrovia THE LIBERIAN AGE in English 3 Jul 79 p 4

[Text] The Korea Trade Center (KOTRA) in Monrovia is to set up a joint venture trading company here with the purpose of supplying Korean goods which would be kept in stock for sale in small quantity on the Liberian market.

This was disclosed in an interview by the director of the Center, Mr Young-il Sunwoo, who said that the establishment of this company would solve the problems facing most of the importers here who want to place order for small quantity of Korean goods which could not be accepted by most of the Korean exporters.

Mr Sunwoo said that a prominent Lebanese businessman here has shown interest in the establishment of this company and that he is scheduled to leave for Korea soon for negotiation. By the end of July a group of Korean traders would also visit Monrovia to finalize arrangements.

Asked what has been the activities of the Center in promoting trade and economic cooperation between Korea and Liberia, Mr Sunwoo said for the past 10 months since the establishment of his office in Monrovia he visited many importers and exporters; he conducted comprehensive marketing research on major items; he exploited the possibility of establishment of a joint-venture factory in Liberia; and introduced reliable Korean traders to their many Liberian counterparts.

With regard to competition with other country's products, the director admitted that their quality of goods is a bit inferior to certain country's products and that the Korean price is higher than certain country's price; "but general speaking, our price is competitive in view of quality" he said.

Touching on the recent Korean export performance to Liberia, Mr Sunwoo disclosed that up to May their exports totalled to \$6.7 million. This is a big increase comparing with the corresponding period of last years; we expect \$12 million by the end of this year," he added.

Asked about the prospect for Liberian market, Mr Sunwoo said that since the 14 April riot Liberian market experienced hard time. "But I support that a big advantages of open door policy are enough to attract foreign investments and transit business. Much will depend upon how to keep on political stability and how to give business incentives to local businessmen. Anyhow Liberian market is an attractive one which has big potentials on the both side of import and export."

Asked if it is possible to do business with Korea on credit basis, the director said this is quite possible only from second or third time business. "Our import-export bank is established for this purpose; but it is rather difficult for us to give credit facility for the first time business, because Korean exporters cannot know anything about importers here at first time." Concluding, he welcomes any businessman to his office for any information about doing business with Korea.

CSO: 4420

'AMNESTY BROUGHT MANY BENEFITS TO MANY QUARTERS'

Monrovia THE LIBERIAN AGE in English 3 Jul 79 p 4

[Article by G. Henry Andrews]

[Text] There will be no treason trial. The University of Liberia is reopened. There will be no inquiry into possible acts of misfeasance, malfeasance and non-feasance prior to and during the 14 April incident by certain agencies of Government. "All's well that ends well."

The granting of a general amnesty to all those indicted for incidents of 14 April was a magnanimous gesture. We have to assume however that it also applies not only to those indicted, but also to those not indicted but who should have been to all those whose actions of omission and/or commission fanned the flames of discontent prior to 14 April; to all those whose practice of high-handedness, insensitivity, partiality and justice helped to alienate an otherwise docile people as well as all those who can't yet see that one of the root causes of discontent and dissatisfaction is the greed and avarice of people getting and grabbing and amassing unto themselves everything they can while squeezing every dime out of others.

But all is over, or should be. The amnesty, although undoubtedly a most magnanimous act, was really the only wise thing to do. Rightly or wrongly, Mr Matthews and those indicted along with him are heroes in the eyes of the common man. A treason trial resulting in conviction for them with a possibility of execution could have torn our nation asunder.

To have conducted a treason trial before the O.A.U. was out of the question. Yet not to hold one would mean keeping them in jail and the state of emergency very much in evidence during the summit. So, freeing them was magnanimous, it is true, but it was also a strategic move that brought many benefits to many quarters. A treason trial would have pulled rope, and rope would have pulled bush.

Now, we have to look ahead. The amnesty was a bold and wise move. Amnesty means the State relegates into oblivion the acts for which a person or persons have run afoul of the law. It means all sides burying the hatchet. This we must all do, especially those persons who are harboring any thoughts of disrupting the O.A.U.

In this connection, the call in the press recently of Counsellor C. Abayoni Cassell for peace and harmony during the O.A.U. is timely. I wish to add my voice to this call. While I accept that there is much to be dissatisfied about, I also realize that there is a time and place for everything.

No matter how much we might fight among ourselves, against the world, we must present a united front. Dirty linen has to be washed when necessary, but one does not wait until guests are in the house to do the washing. Besides, we must at all times eschew violence. Violence is anarchy, sometimes no government can permit. No matter how just your cause, you seriously tarnish that cause by resorting to violence.

There is no African country coming here that does not have problems of its own. Many of them have problems greater by far than ours. They are coming here not to see us hauling and pulling, but to carry out the serious business of coming to grips with Africa's problems. It would be an insult to them and the whole world to mar their visit here.

Besides, it does not make sense. Liberia, from coast to coast, is our country, and we love our country. No action by the government or any single official of the government should be sufficient for anyone to do anything to disgrace our country. It is with this spirit that we all need to be imbued as we approach the O.A.U.

Let us hope that anyone who may be even remotely contemplating any action to disturb the peace will desist from so doing, and turn his attention instead to insuring a hearty welcome and pleasant stay for our guests. After our guests depart, we can come out in a lawful and legal manner with our complaints or grievances, if any. But now it is Liberia, not any individual or group of individuals, which is in the spotlight. It is our beloved country whose name must not be further marred. It is Liberia which must be remembered in history as the cradle of African unity, and as the venue for the most successful O.A.U. summit. Let's not cut off our nose to spite our face.

In this connection, I have decided of my own volition to suspend publication of my column until after the O.A.U. summit. It is well known that the column treads on some rather sensitive social economic and political grounds, and it is my opinion that such matters are of no concern to our guests, and are better left for later. Accordingly, the next column will appear on 24 July.

(The views and opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily reflect the position of this paper. Editor)

CSO: 4420

MALIAN MUSLIM COMMUNITY MAKES CONTRIBUTION TO OAU SUMMIT

Monrovia THE LIBERIAN AGE in English 6 Jul 79 p 13

[Text] An amount of \$1,000.00 was on Wednesday presented to the National Muslim Council Chairman of Liberia Alhaji Vamuyah Corneh as their contribution to the hosting of the OAU summit here in Monrovia by the Malian Muslim Community.

Presenting the amount to Chairman Corneh at his Vai Town home, Alhaji Kebel Bashel of the Malian Muslim Community of Monrovia hailed the efforts of President Tolbert for what he called the President determination in building Liberia to a noble destiny. Adds Bashel: "We Malians find it expedient to identify ourselves with our fellow Africans in building yet another part of our home, Africa."

He pointed out that the amount was a token of appreciation on their part for, according to him the President desire in making Liberia a proud and better place as Africa's oldest independent state.

Accepting the amount Chairman Corneh thanked the Malians for their contribution which he termed as a fine gesture and referred to them as friends indeed. Corneh then lauded President Tolbert for as he put it his acts of benevolence and his sagacious leadership which the Muslim Community has enjoyed over the years.

Present at the occasion were the Vice Chairman of the Muslim Council Alhaji Sekou Bility, Chief Wahabah Sylla, the Malian Muslim Counsel General in Liberia, among others.

CSO: 4420

LIBERIA

DEPUTY MINISTER PUBLISHES BOOK ON FOREIGN POLICY

Monrovia THE LIBERIAN AGE in English 6 Jul 79 p 3

[Text] A new name has been added to what now is considered a steadily growing list of Liberian authors.

The recent addition to the list is the Deputy Minister of State in charge of cabinet Affairs and a visiting lecturer of International Politics at the University of Liberia, Dr Elwood Dunn, whose first book entitled *The Foreign Policy Of Liberia During The Tubman Era 1944-1971*, has just rolled off the London Press.

With a forward by the former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Rochforte L. Weeks, the 255-page hard bound book puts to test some of the declared principles of policy and political orientation of Tubman's regime with some of the international and colonial issues with which the United Nations has had to wrestle since its reception.

Other highlights in the book include topics on Liberia, Africa and the issues of colonialism as well as useful listing of Liberia's Secretaries of State from 1848 to the present and a selected bibliography both in English and French on Liberia's political and diplomatic history.

Many observers view the book as a first comprehensive attempt at an exposition of Liberia's role in world affairs in the post-war era.

CSO: 4420

LEC TO DISCONNECT DELINQUENT CUSTOMERS

Monrovia THE LIBERIAN AGE in English 6 Jul 79 p 3

[Text] Within the next 15 days, the Liberia Electricity Corporation will embark upon a mass disconnection campaign against government ministries and agencies as well as public corporations and other business establishments that have not paid their balances within the given period.

This action is being taken because LEC is faced with a grave financial situation which threatens not only to obstruct planned improvement and expansion of its present system but also to ground the present system to a halt.

A clear picture of LEC's tremendous financial responsibility can be seen from its indebtedness to the Liberia Petroleum Company, one of its creditors in the tune of \$8,000,000.00 just for fuel for the gas turbines which feed the Corporation's network about 95 percent of the operational time during the dry season and for the out stations this is the fuel bill for only eight months covering September 1978 to April 1979.

In recent months, the Corporation, according to management went out of its way by given customers every opportunity to clear up their accounts by setting up a credit system whereby those persons who were delinquent could pay their outstanding balances by monthly installments over a period to suit their respective income.

According to statistics very few delinquent customers took advantage of this offer and out of 9,000 delinquent customers only 400 of them complied and therefore the Corporation feels that continued indulgence will no longer be permitted, it was averred.

It should also be noted that LEC maintenance development and expansion projects are financed by foreign lending institutions and that these institutions are demanding that the Corporation meets its payment schedules. Formerly, the Government of Liberia assisted the Liberia Electricity Corporation in meeting some of these obligations, but a decision has now been reached by Government that the Corporation takes full responsibility for

its debt servicing, and thus this decision along with the sky rocketing price of petroleum products, has placed a very heavy burden on the limited financial resources of the Corporation.

In view of Government's commitment to ensure that a continuous supply of electricity is available to customers and LEC's mandate to implement government's decision in the premises, all financial resources of the Corporation must be harnessed.

One major and ready source of finance available to LEC is in the finance from the sale of its product, electricity. Unfortunately, many customers of electricity are delinquent in their payment, consequently the Corporation must demand that all outstanding balances be paid or they must face immediate disconnection of their services to avoid embarrassment.

CSO: 4420

PARTY CONVENTIONS NOMINATE LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES

Monrovia THE LIBERIAN AGE in English 6 Jul 79 pp 1, 2

[Excerpt] Local Conventions of the True Whig Party were held throughout the country yesterday to nominate candidates for the Legislature who will be carried forward at the polls in the October Quadrennial Elections.

At the County and Territorial Conventions the local parties also elected new slate of officers.

In Montserrado County Edmund Dillon replaced Partisan James Brown as County Chairman with Nathan C. Ross as first vice chairman Edna Wardsworth second vice chairman and Julius P. Nelson, Jr., as third vice chairman.

Wilmot A. Tolbert and Leonard DeShield retained their posts as secretary and first vice secretary respectively while Alma Witherspoon and Thelma Goll were added to the roster as vice secretaries conforming to a new policy of the party to have the women and the youth represented on the staff of every local party.

In Marshall Territory Felix O. Lawrence succeeded Partisan Emma Campbell as chairman while Edwin Lloyd, Edna James, and Augustus Caesar, Jr., were elected as vice chairmen. Partisan Stanton B. Peabody retained the post of secretary with Teah Cole, Clarence Townsend and Dorothy Hall being elected as the assistants.

The Convention of Marshall Territory held in Charlesville ratified the endorsement of Leroy Francis as the Nominee for the House from Marshall Territory.

Mr Francis pledged his services to the building of the territory with the cooperation of all its citizens and barring any impediments from anyone. He said that if in two years no results are seen from his efforts, the partisans can seek his removal.

BRIEFS

PRESIDENT CONTRIBUTES TO MOSQUE--President Tolbert this week presented a personal check for \$2,000 to Alhaji Vamunyah Sheriff, General Chairman of the Muslim Community Liberia towards the completion of the renovation work being done on the Mosque at the corner of Benson and Mechlin Streets. Alhaji Sheriff said when the renovation is completed, there will be no room for destitutes who had made the Mosque their place of habitation. He then thanked the President for his continuing support to the Muslim Community, and assured the Chief Executive that the amount would be used for its intended purpose. [Text] [Monrovia THE LIBERIAN AGE in English 12 Jul 79 p 1]

'XINHUA' CORRESPONDENT INTRODUCED--The Chinese embassy near this capitol last Friday evening introduced for the first time in Liberia a resident correspondent of the XINHUA News Agency of that Far East Asian country. According to the Charge d'Affaire at the embassy, Mr Yuan who has served in Nigeria is taking up his second assignment to Africa. Mr Yuan and five other correspondents will be covering the ensuing Organization of African Unity Summit here next month. Among the other correspondents is one from the PEOPLES DAILY of China. He was formally introduced to the Liberia Press at a reception which was held at one of the residences of the Chinese Embassy near this capitol Friday evening, Yuan will also work along side the Liberian News Agency. [Text] [Monrovia THE LIBERIAN AGE in English 6 Jul 79 p 15]

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

PRC AID FOR DAM--Lily for some, Antafofo for others. No matter. The ceremony which took place yesterday at the Ministry of Economy and Commerce in the early afternoon was far from having the tone of a colloquium of historians and geographers on places and locations and their exact names. More prosaically, it was the signing of a convention for the realization of a hydroelectric dam project as part of a Chinese loan totaling 12.5 billion FMC and also covering other projects such as road construction on National Highway No 2, as well as the pharmaceutical products and the porcelain factories to be installed at Antsirabe. The dam will be built at the first Lily Falls (Antafofo) in the Fivondronana of Miarinarivo in the Itasy region, and will have a production of 1200 kw. Work will begin in 6 months and will last 1-1/2 to 2 years. [Excerpt] [Tananarive MADAGASCAR-MATIN in French 14 Jun 79 pp 1,2] 9413

CSO: 4400

MMSP PROPOSES UNITED FRONT OF LEFTISTS

Port Louis LE PEUPLE in French 15 Jun 79 pp 1, 4

[Text] The MMSP [Mauritian Militant Movement Socialist Party] is proposing establishment of a patriotic front combining the MM [Mauritian Militant Movement], that party's "left wing," the group of laborites opposed to the social order, the UDM [Democratic Union of Mauritius], and the MMSP in order to find an immediate solution for the purpose of giving Mauritius its last chance. This front, stated Dev Verahsamy, chairman of the MMSP, during a press conference yesterday morning "will crystallize, in political form, the alliance of all classes dominated by imperialism, the power of monopolistic capital in Mauritius, and the PT/PMSD [Labor Party/Mauritius Social Democratic Party] government." The MMSP considers that such a front must commence a program of a minimum of 5 years, in order to direct the country to genuine national independence at all levels; the MMSP proposal endeavors to respond to the catastrophic situation of no return in which Mauritius finds itself. The MMSP leader also analyzed the 1979/80 budget.

The MMSP leader announced the political decisions made by his party in response to the country's specific situation. The MMSP:

1. Considers that all union central committees without any distinction at all--those of the FSSC [Federation of Civil Service Unions], the GWF [General Workers' Federation], the SEF [expansion unknown], the FTU [expansion unknown], and the MLC [Mauritian Labor Congress]--should meet around a table to arrive at a joint platform upon specific points; to coordinate the struggle of the laboring class and intellectual workers for the purpose of gaining salary increases to compensate for the rise in the cost of living and to safeguard job security;
2. Hopes that the MTPA [expansion unknown] will consider the possibility of launching the watchword of civil disobedience (refusal to pay taxes);
3. Asks consumer organizations to mobilize, and organize the public and to think over the possibility of calling for a purchasing boycott aimed at certain products; and

4. Considers that, in view of the fact that there is no solution at all within the framework of the neocolonial system, only the establishment of a political front can save Mauritius.

To that end the MPMSP considers that all the social forces of the country must be mobilized in order to topple the coalition government and bring on anticipated general elections. The front combining the parties and groups of the left and the left-center should, the MPMSP considers, devise a minimum 5-year program for:

- a) destruction of neocolonialism
- b) development of a national economy based upon self-sufficiency as far as possible, of an economy capable of creating jobs and satisfying the basic needs of the people
- c) better utilization of our natural, material, financial, human, and cultural resources
- d) destruction of monopolies through nationalization and antitrust laws
- e) electoral reform with introduction of a system of proportional representation
- f) combatting communalism and corruption
- g) a vast program of housing construction
- h) nationalization and reorganization of public transport
- i) total reorganization of the educational system
- j) genuine nonalignment in the struggle between the two superpowers and in all forms of hegemony
- k) greater cooperation with Third World countries.

These points can serve to start discussion of a minimum program, Dev Verahsawmy said.

In addition the MPMSP chairman commented upon the budget, which his party regards as a stab in the back of the people (manual and intellectual workers) which shows the total bankruptcy of neocolonialism and the absence of political and economic direction as well as the impotence of the government in power; which enables the people to discover the demagogy of the PMSD which passed the new tax measures despite its public promise not to do so. This budget, Verahsawmy declared, will make life even more difficult for the people because inflation and unemployment will further increase. "We shall see stagnation of the economy accompanied by extraordinary inflation," he stated.

The 1979/80 budget, in the opinion of the MMMSP is a budgetary mirror reflecting, in all its details, the upsetting economic and political realities facing the country.

Verahsawmy said that Mauritius has arrived at a point of no return because of the PT/PSMD government and the grand bourgeoisie which have sacrificed the national and collective interest in order to satisfy their own selfish interests. The speaker talked about the government's and the monopolists' criminal policy which wasted the sugar bonanza by thrusting the country into a consuming society beyond its capacities whereas what was necessary was to take advantage of it in order to invest in the country's real development. To the MMMSP the budget once more emphasizes the increased dependence of our country upon foreign countries, particularly as far as our food requirements are concerned. In this respect, Verahsawmy insists upon genuine agricultural diversification and recalls that for 10 years this thesis has been ridiculed by the government and private sector.

"Only seven families control our economy through a system of holding companies," he said. This trend toward monopoly had already started before 1976 and the government even spoke of "14 families which control the country's economy." In 3 years, said Verahsawmy, the situation has grown worse.

The MMMSP leader also denounced the Minister of France for its outburst against the workers and the unions. "This is a revolting attitude. Instead of recognizing his mistakes, the minister is looking for scapegoats. SUR [expansion unknown] is provoking the workers although they are in no way responsible for the situation," he said.

Verahsawmy said that the cost of living, already very high, will rise considerably with the new tax measures, whereas the government and the private sector have let it be understood that they have no intention of providing sufficient compensation [for it]. This country's workers, he said, refuse to foot the bill for the misadministration of a neocolonial government responsible for the deterioration of the economic situation.

Also present at the press conference were Alain Laridon, Georges Comerasamy, Raffick Jaunbaccus, and Siven Ramew, all members of the party's central committee.

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CSO: 4400

MAURITIUS

JOB NEEDS PROJECTED FOR 1992

Port Louis THE NATION in French 5 Jun 79 p 1

[Text] Studies performed at several levels have shown that Mauritius will need 400,000 jobs, that is 140,000 more, in order to achieve full employment with a population of 1.2 million in 1992. According to 1976 statistics, there were 260,000 jobs in Mauritius for a population of 260,000.

These projections and data were provided on Saturday at the Parte Palace by Guy Davjoux, principal town and country planning officer in the Ministry of Housing, during an information session organized for the benefit of young people by the Rotary Club.

According to Davjoux the responsible officials are banking upon the secondary (manufacturing and construction) and tertiary (administration, services, tourism, intangible commerce, insurance, and so forth) sectors for creation of new jobs because predictions show that the primary (agriculture, fishing, and so forth) sector will remain stagnant until 1992. It is estimated that in 1992 there will be 140,000 jobs in the secondary sector and 190,000 in the tertiary sector, Davjoux also said.

However, the speaker added, one should expect to find employment outside of our cities because of decentralization plan which was contemplated in 1970. That plan recommends development of certain villages which are destined to become cities of the future, in this instance Goodlands, Centre de Flacq, Rose-Belle, Quartier Militaire, Mahibourg, Souillac, and Tamarin.

The projections for 1992 show the following geographical distribution of jobs:

[totals as published]

	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Total
Port Louis	7,000	45,000	48,000	100,000
Triolet	3,500	5,900	12,100	21,500
Goodlands	3,800	8,700	10,200	22,700
Flacq	12,800	15,700	30,300	58,800
Quartier Militaire	3,900	3,900	3,900	10,800
Lower P. Wilhems	24,800	24,800	39,000	74,800
Upper P. Wilhems	23,300	23,300	24,000	53,300
Rc e-Belle	5,900	5,900	11,400	29,300
Mahibourg	5,100	5,100	5,600	13,300
Souillac	1,700	1,700	5,300	15,500
	70,000	140,000	190,000	400,000

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CSO: 4400

'LE MONDE': NONALINEMENT MAY BE DIFFICULT TO PRESERVE

Paris LE MONDE in French 13 Jul 79 p 3

[Excerpts] Maputo--Rhodesian bombings in Mozambique have become an almost daily occurrence. Since the summer of 1978, the Salisbury army has modified its tactics. Land incursions have become too risky due to the increased efficiency displayed by Mozambican forces, and have been replaced by the "fifth column" which carries the guerrilla war in enemy territory with very sophisticated means, and by air raids. Even large cities are not immune to them. Thus, the military installations at the Beira airport have been attacked. The recent installation of radar and anti-aircraft equipment around Maputo proves that the authorities are expecting the worse and are preparing for it.

Losses as a result of the closing of the Rhodesian border are reaching an annual total of \$300 million, an amount which corresponds approximately to the total exports of the country. Officially, armed forces absorb one-fourth of the budget and, more importantly, are mobilizing cadres badly needed elsewhere. The de facto war conditions prevailing in the border provinces and the destruction caused by the Rhodesian incursions are hindering the progress of the economy. Finally, the fact that Mozambique must seek abroad increasingly modern weaponry considerably reduces the margin for maneuvering within the field of Mozambican diplomacy.

FRELIMO seems to have lost all hopes for a Western intervention aimed at imposing "a solution which would center around the people of Zimbabwe and not Ian Smith." On the contrary, it expects a diplomatic offensive and a military escalation, with Mozambique as its primary target. In the short run, FRELIMO fears less the latter than the former. Of course, radar coverage is insufficient, anti-aircraft weapons are scarce and the Mozambican army's SAM missiles cannot successfully be used against Mirage planes and tend to become useless in a short time because of the impossibility to replace their guidance mechanisms. However, as the chief of state told us: "We possess a large amount of materiel and planes, and we shall receive more equipment, ever more sophisticated."

FRELIMO is convinced that, no matter how serious the attacks, the domestic front will not cave in. However, will Mozambique be able to count on its allies' resolute support? Since the summer of 1978, the time of the crisis within the Patriotic Front and the frontline which followed the meetings between Smith and Nkomo, Mozambique is haunted by the fear of finding itself alone at ZANU's side, in confrontation with Smith's regime.

Zambia's Attitude

Botswana does not have the means to play an active role. Angola, removed from the battlefield, is more preoccupied by the situation in Namibia. Tanzania, which does not have a common border with Zimbabwe, is busy dealing with the consequences of its intervention in Uganda. This leaves Zambia. Despite the reopening of the Rhodesian border, its economic difficulties are mounting. President Kaunda, whose fickleness is very much feared by Maputo, must reckon, on its right, with the rise of a opposite faction which evidences little sympathy for the liberation struggle in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia and wishes to reach a rapid settlement with Salisbury.

Taking into account the extent of the guerrilla war and the internal disension in Rhodesia, Zambia and Nkomo's ZAPU were betting on the imminent fall of the Salisbury regime. ZAPU had, therefore, trained and equipped its armed forces with the intent of occupying urban centers at the opportune time. The recovery in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, which is attributed to the massive support granted by South Africa during the last 6 months, turned this strategy obsolete: ZAPU will be unable to play any significant military role as long as its army, formed to maintain law and order, will not be turned again into a veritable guerrilla force.

Thus the Mozambican authorities are constantly questioning themselves unofficially over Kaunda's and Nkomo's future line of conduct. These authorities doubtlessly do not discount the possibility that the two leaders may elect to resolve the impasse by negotiating with Salisbury.

This eventuality would place Mozambique in a dangerous situation. The Rhodesian army could then concentrate all its forces on one front alone. Moreover, the participation of the Zimbabwe liberation movement's "historical leader" in an internal settlement would confer to this movement an aura of legitimacy which would hardly justify the continuation of an armed struggle. As it is, FRELIMO is convinced that in this case, the new Salisbury regime would remain in the South African orbit, that Zambia would renew its historical ties with Zimbabwe-Rhodesia and that the Mozambican revolution, thus attacked on practically all its borders, would experience especially dark days.

Reinforcing the Patriotic Front's Unity

To avoid these perilous circumstances, Mozambique is, above all, concerned with preserving unity among the Patriotic Front and the Frontline states at

all costs. The Addis Ababa agreement is the first successful step toward "keeping Nkomo on this side of the Zambeze River." On the other hand, doubts are expressed here over the probability of ZAPU's young military leaders following Nkomo in the event he decides to return to Salisbury. ZANU's leaders think too highly of their "patriotism" to believe this could happen. Finally, Mugabe has 10,000 fighters permanently stationed in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, with at least that many probably arrayed in other African countries where their training period is now ending. Thus, the guerrilla struggle picked up again after the elections, and it is expected that it will reach a level never attained before. Machel believes that armed struggle is still the "decisive element" in how the conflict will evolve. He reaffirmed to us: "We shall support the Zimbabwe people's struggle to its ultimate consequences: for us it is a matter of principle."

Keeping this promise presupposes that the USSR and its allies will not push Mozambique into negotiations. However, while still supporting ZAPU as resolutely as ever, their reservations over ZANU have not diminished: with the exception of Cuba--which has been doing so on a reduced scale and for a brief period time--the Soviet camp does not provide any material support to Mugabe's movement. The latter can only count on China and some of the nonaligned countries for assistance. Moreover, following the Rhodesian elections, Maputo was buzzing with "tiny hints" dropped by diplomats and cooperants from socialist countries that they did not wish to see a major confrontation in Southern Africa and that "negotiations with Salisbury must take place before it is too late."

Will the Eastern bloc increase, or at least maintain Mozambique's defense capability? It is only too well-known that the deliveries of weapons by the socialist countries have never satisfied the Mozambicans, both in quality and quantity. More importantly, since Maputo has always been unable to obtain such weapons from other sources, these deliveries are not entirely free. Even if the socialist countries are always officially praising Maputo effusively, those who are called "natural allies" tend to become "compulsory allies." Economic and political penetration on the part of the socialist countries, and especially by East Germany, has increased in recent months.

Since its establishment, FRELIMO had been successful in maintaining good relations with the USSR and with China. The latter, for instance, has always provided Maputo with arms. At this point, however, there is a rift between Beijing and Maputo--cooperation is now down to a symbolic level--which began when Maputo recognized the new Cambodian regime and condemned the Chinese intervention in Vietnam, albeit in very measured terms. Nevertheless, Moscow's pressure on Mozambique has not relaxed: it must align itself with Soviet diplomacy, adopt a strictly orthodox political and economic policy, and it must respond to the strategic needs of the USSR. FRELIMO places above all the preservation of national independence. This is why it is fighting so energetically against an internationalization of the Rhodesian conflict. "The war is a liberation struggle between the Zimbabweans and the

colonists. We are fighting so it will not spill outside the borders of Zimbabwe," Machel told us; moreover, he is extremely reticent about the eventual arrival of an inter-African force in the region.

Amer, a Mozambican newsman, confided to us: "We want to remain in the non-aligned camp: in our present situation, this is equivalent to heroism."

CSO: 4400

REEDUCATION CENTER VISITED, NO MISTREATMENT SEEN

Paris LE MONDE in French 13 Jul 79 p 3

[Excerpts] Chicomo--The sign read, white on red: Chicomo Reeducation Center. No barbed wire, no watchtowers, no cells, no heavy locked doors: nothing that may evoke the actual conditions of imprisonment. There are 7 guards who were not always armed during our visit.

What could they do against 350 inmates in the event these would organize an uprising, and get hold of the tens of axes, machetes and hoes piled up in a corner of the warehouse for agricultural purposes? The idea of a revolt does not even occur to the leader of the center, a 24-year-old policeman.

The group of about 10 inmates, with whom we were able to speak freely before the provincial official in charge who was accompanying us came closer to overhear us, confirmed to us that no corporal punishment is ever administered. They believe they are well fed: 3 meals a day. They are not complaining about the work either: each of them is assigned to the cultivation of rice and vegetables on about 20 hectares. However, the uncertainty they are experiencing over the duration of their confinement seems especially hard on them. The inmates have committed minor crimes: fights, thefts, misappropriation of funds, drugs or "sexual corruption." Those with whom we spoke had been there for over a year. The Ministry of the Interior regularly requests the release of a certain quota of inmates, who are chosen by the administration of the center, or else the latter believes the time has come to free some inmates. What are the criteria? "The readiness to reintegrate society," the director of the center tells us.

To reach this level of readiness, reeducation through work seems secondary: the objective is only to produce enough to feed oneself. On the other hand, education is essential. Of the 15 brigades housed in the center, 9 of them attend literacy classes for 2 hours every day. Saturdays are reserved for political indoctrination, except for those who are already literate and attend a political course every day.

Material conditions are a great deal better than those prevailing in the rest of the country for the majority of Mozambicans. The physical plant itself would make any "communal village" pale in comparison. Is this a "show-piece"? Authorities maintain this is not true and give their assurances that this center is no better and no worse than any of the dozen others disseminated around Mozambique. However, they acknowledge that the beginnings were far more difficult. But they now feel sufficiently sure of themselves to declare that they are ready to open these centers as well as the jails to a foreign investigative commission empowered, for instance, by Amnesty International.

CSO: 4400

COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT HOPES BASED ON URANIUM

London WEST AFRICA in English 9 Jul 79 pp 1210-1211, 1213

[Text] NOW THAT NIGER is entering the exclusive global club of energy exporters, its voice will be heard on matters that concern developing countries. This has been predicted ever since substantial deposits of uranium were discovered in the country in the early sixties and were mined after 1968. The point has also been made in a recent speech by President Kountche which displayed confidence for the future of a country which, 20 years ago, seemed destined on a path similar to that of its landlocked, drought-stricken neighbours.

With the help of solar and wind energy, as well as nuclear, Niger is on the way to self sufficiency in energy, the President said. As a uranium producer, "Niger possesses neither the capital nor the technology, indispensable for its transformation. Its simple exploitation obliges Niger to associate itself to countries with advanced technologies." The President added that even if Niger were to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty — which it has not so far — this would not alter its objectives in the nuclear domain, in which Niger is preparing "its own ethics". With pressing demands from the areas of medicine, agriculture, research and electrical production, Niger cannot apply all its resources to the development of nuclear energy.

"On the other hand," he added, "when Niger's uranium production reaches a certain level at which it can make its weight felt on the global level of energy, then we will undertake our responsibilities in order not to allow anyone to take over our role." And, if this does not occur "tomorrow", people may rest assured that it will one day, and that by then Niger will have reflected carefully on its role, the President concluded.

There are two levels therefore in which Niger's uranium production will be of importance. The first in the volume and distribution of the uranium, and secondly the manner in which revenue derived from the resource will be applied to the development of an economy where agricultural production is still weak, where the infrastructure and transport facilities are still limited, and where there is still a lack of qualified administrators and managers.

It is expected that Niger will be supplying France with 44 per cent of its uranium within a few years. This, in fact, accounts for much of Niger's uranium production. The Japanese are participating in a second mine. Production is now likely to jump ahead. Hence the official optimism, because of the opening of a mine at Akouta, whose installations have been constructed by the Japanese company Overseas Uranium Resources Development. The government owns 31 per cent of the shares and the French Atomic Energy Commission (CEA) has a 34 per cent holding, represented by its subsidiary Cogema. There is a 10 per cent interest held by the Spanish Empresa Nacional del Uranio. The entire operation is controlled by la Compagnie Minière d'Akouta, COMINAK.

The main deposit of uranium has been, however, at Air and since 1968 has been mined by the Société Minière d'Air. Under the present code of investment promulgated by the government, there is a 33 per cent holding by the state company ONAREM, Office Nationale de Recherches Minières du Niger. Six other companies, predominantly French, participate in the capital: they are: Cogema (26.9 per cent), Compagnie Française des Minerais d'Uranium (11.7 per cent),

Minatome SA (7.5 per cent), Compagnie de Mokta (7.5 per cent), Uragengesellschaft (6.5 per cent) and Agip-Nucleare (6.5 per cent).

Since 1971, when 410 tonnes of metal uranium were produced, the total production has amounted to 9,258 tonnes in 1978. Last year was the highest yet, 1,710 tonnes. The total reserves over the next ten years are estimated at 200,000 tonnes. Niger's budget and export revenue is rapidly becoming dominated by uranium. By 1976, uranium exports accounted for 64 per cent of the export revenue. The projects which revolve around the mineral industry — magnesium and phosphate are expected to play a greater role in the future as the reserves are exploited — have entailed a considerable investment from abroad. However, the present foreign debt stands at some 70 billion CFA francs serviced at an annual rate of 5 per cent, a burden which is light in comparison with some of the other countries of the region.

The conditions under which the uranium is mined points to the difficulties that President Kountche or any other government might face. Though they have at their disposal large reserves of a valuable mineral, they cannot exploit it without the assistance of foreign interests. Agreements with France — and French wooing — have been a flourishing feature, if not widely commented on, recently. The French interest in Niger's uranium is closely tied with French foreign policies. Though France may not require large supplies of uranium for the development of its nuclear arms, the vehemence with which France's defence policies remain independent of NATO necessitate a sure supply of the mineral.

The test therefore for Niger's government is the degree to which it is seeking to create the economic and human means by which the country can establish its own independence, firstly in order to acquire that voice, to which President Kountche referred in international forums, and, secondly, to achieve a balanced development in a country with its present handicaps.

These are by no means few. With over five million inhabitants and only 2.4 per cent of the entire area of the country cultivated, agricultural production has to be expanded. The country is landlocked, the nearest port being 800 kms away. Water supply has to be harnessed and the problems facing all the Sahelian countries,

the encroachment of climatic conditions that are gradually turning large portions of the country into desert have to be faced by measures that are radical and costly even if they will only bear fruit in some years. To achieve this qualified personnel have to be trained, adequately and rapidly.

A point which Niger officials will emphasise is that while the mining operations may have a large foreign participation and involve only limited numbers of Niger citizens, the government has attempted to enhance the lot of the masses, who must would suspect had been ignored by the uranium bonanza. One of the main measures has been the abolition of the general tax applied to all the population whatever their income. The tax had become something of a dread for the peasant, aggravating the debts already created by adverse climatic conditions. The loss for the government in the abolition is 1 billion CFA francs. This has been compensated by uranium earnings.

Uranium has also encouraged development in infrastructure. The deposits are not in the populated south, and roads have to be constructed for the transport of the extracted uranium. This has not only opened up markets for peasants once caught up in the cycle of self-sufficiency but it has reduced the huge problems faced in export and import from Benin and Togo. Both these routes are now part of projects to be developed for more extensive use.

But above all, in the last ten years, the volume of Niger's budget has risen from 12.4 billion CFA francs in 1970/1 to 56.8 in 1978/9. The budgets naturally fall within the guidelines of the general development planning which in the case of Niger consisted of a Three Year Plan from 1976 to 1978, and now a Five Year Plan from 1979 to 1983. With results of the last Plan gradually emerging — official statistics in Niger can sometimes be up to three years late — it is estimated that it has achieved about 65 per cent of what it set out to do. Four main areas were covered by the Plan: rural production; infrastructure, public and water works; human resources (education, health); and mining. Almost a third of the investment was in agriculture and with almost half the allotted sum invested by the end of the period, the results are on the whole disappointing. With the exception of millet production, the performance in both food and cereal production has been lethargic. Livestock production, for long

considered one of the strengths of the economy, has yet to realise its potential. While the animal population has risen beyond expectations after the droughts in the first half of the seventies, the ranching operations which have become a common, and sometimes exploitative feature of Sahelian livestock production, have produced mixed results.

The greatest worry for Niger is water and forests. To put the problem in perspective of the total surface area of the country, 126.7m. hectares, it is estimated that at least 15m. could be cultivated. Currently cultivated areas amount to 3.15m. hectares, and of these only 30,000 hectares are irrigated. It therefore remains imperative for the government to harness water supply and develop energy production to assist in agriculture. Meanwhile the rural productivity remains the prey to climatic variations. The afforestation programme embarked upon by the government has yet to start producing any effective results.

The greatest success under the Three Year Plan, which will continue to receive enthusiastic support in the current Five Year Plan, is road construction and the supply of water to remote areas and villages. Part of this success has been linked to the mining operations and their infrastructure. Similarly, there has been a rigorous application of the education plans. In the primary and secondary education over 90 per cent of the projects undertaken have been achieved. There was a lag in higher education. With a population that is proving extremely mobile — in 1977 there was an 11.6 per cent rate of urbanisation — and the fact that 3.3m. people, in a population of 5.2m. are under the age of 25, the burden on education should be evident.

Niger has chosen the "liberal" path to the development of its economy through the exploitation of a single, extremely valuable, natural resource. The signs are that at the moment it has established a set of priorities that reflect lessons learnt from the failures of other countries. The risk is that sooner or later the desire to have a voice internationally — as the oil producers have — will have to be balanced against the actual ability to produce that source of power and independence.

FOREIGN POLICIES WILL CONTINUE UNDER CIVILIAN REGIME

London WEST AFRICA in English 9 Jul 79 pp 1200-1203

[Speech to the International Press Institute in Athens by Dr. Patrick Dele Cole, managing director of the DAILY TIMES]

[Excerpts]

THIS IS a time of profound changes, some might even say profound crises, on the African continent. It is also a time when, because of the imminent departure of the military government in my own country, the international community is concerned naturally to know what changes, if any, are likely to occur in the direction and goals of Nigerian foreign policy.

We in Nigeria hold that any attempt to recognise the new regime in Zimbabwe or to lift the sanctions imposed on that country would be a hostile act against the legitimate aspirations of the African continent. It would be an act which would call for an appropriate response from all African countries. And it would be one that would make it obligatory on the part of any Nigerian government to employ whatever effective means at its disposal to show its displeasure. We shall continue to insist that no government in Zimbabwe can be considered legitimate unless it is one freely chosen by all the peoples of that country. You may be certain that we shall

not as a country deviate from that position until this is achieved.

On the Namibian question, we have watched with dismay the manner in which the South African government has continued to defy international opinion, and the way in which Western nations have continued to prevaricate over the need to return Namibia to political legitimacy. We have condemned and will continue to condemn all collaboration with the racist South African regime both in Namibia and in South Africa itself. And we shall continue to render every possible diplomatic and

other assistance to the South West Africa People's Organisation, a group that even the United Nations recognises as the sole, legitimate representative of the peoples of that country. We will support every genuine effort to restore a just and representative government in Namibia, based on the principle of majority rule. And we shall continue to press as forcefully as we can for the destruction of apartheid in South Africa.

These are perennial principles and goals for us, and do not depend on the wishes of any particular government. It is therefore

important for those who are expecting a less forthright position from a new government in Nigeria to begin now to disabuse themselves of such expectations.

There are two other major areas about which there appears to be some doubt with regard to the position that a civilian government in Nigeria is likely to take once it comes to power in October. The first has to do with Nigeria's commitment to regional co-operation and to the United Nations, and the second with our stance with respect to the ideological conflict between the countries of the West and East. On the question of regional co-operation, you are all aware, I am sure, of the strenuous efforts the Nigerian government has been making to foster and encourage the rapid growth of the Economic Community of Western African States. It is unlikely that our commitment to this Community will diminish. If anything, I feel certain it will in fact increase, precisely because it is in the interest of our country that it should grow. We believe that the best way to protect ourselves from external political and economic exploitation is by building for ourselves, in our part of the world, a sufficiently modern economic system. We cannot achieve this in isolation from our neighbours, and we cannot be indifferent to their own aspirations for economic growth. It is therefore mutually beneficial to all members of the Community that we all should work hard to expand the areas of regional co-operation in West Africa, if only as a first step towards achieving a larger community in the entire African continent. This, too, is a goal to which no government in Nigeria can afford to be indifferent.

Living with OAU

We in Nigeria have not always been happy with the Organisation of African Unity or with the United Nations. There have been times when we have wished these organisations were more effective in fostering the goals for which they were created. But despite our occasional misgivings, we believe they have been quite successful in providing a forum where issues of continental or world significance can be calmly debated and resolved. Nigeria was one of the founding members of the OAU, and has been an active member of the United Nations since we became independent in 1960. It is again most unlikely that we will deviate from this commitment in the future.

But perhaps by far the most important issue about which European nations could conceivably be uneasy is of course the question as to which of the ideological camps we might decide to join once a civilian government comes to power in Nigeria. I personally see no reason why there should be any doubts on this question. Successive Nigerian governments have continuously reiterated their determination not to be drawn into the quarrel between the NATO and Warsaw Pact countries. Ideologically, we have never accepted as a nation that there is anything exclusively inevitable about either the Soviet or the Western way of life. We are, of course, passionately committed to development and to economic modernisation. We are concerned with providing enough facilities for our citizens so that our lives can be reasonably comfortable. And in the pursuit of this objective, we are perfectly willing to accept help from wherever we can find it.

We do not accept, however, that we must deny our own legitimate interests or become partisans in ideological quarrels in order to achieve this goal. The perennial Nigerian position is that of non-alignment, and it is a goal from which we are most unlikely to deviate in the coming years.

I have chosen to identify, rather briefly, those areas of foreign policy about which there seems to be some expectation of change in October. I suspect that those who expect any change in our foreign policy positions after October do so because they hope that a civilian government in Nigeria will be less determined in its pursuit of the goals we have set ourselves. It is my submission that those who harbour such hopes do not understand the bases upon which these positions have been formed, or the intensity of the involvement of the Nigerian people in matters of foreign policy. Despite the fact that politicians are inclined to make occasionally ill-thought out remarks and promises in the heat of an election campaign, I think it is worth remarking that not a single one of our presidential candidates has so far said anything that might even remotely be considered as an intention to deviate from the cardinal principles of Nigerian foreign policy. They have done so because they know that the Nigerian people will not accept such a deviation. And I believe that that should serve as sufficient warning to those who for their own selfish interests expect something different.

Nigerians disturbed by European trend

I cannot conclude without restating what I said earlier in this address. Just as Europeans are worried about what possible direction a new civilian government in Nigeria will take, so also are we in Nigeria profoundly disturbed by the conservative political trend we now notice in so many countries of Europe. We fear that such conservatism can only benefit the racist regimes on the continent of Africa. We fear that it will lead to an attempt to support and perpetuate the illegal government in Zimbabwe and the apartheid regime in South Africa. We fear that it could conceivably lead to an attempt to destabilise progressive African governments. And I believe that it is probably far more useful at this time for the liberal elements in Europe to begin to consider ways in which they might prevent such an eventuality. The Nigerian position in foreign policy is on the side of justice and equality, and will remain so. All those who believe in these principles should seek to co-operate with us in order that we may achieve as quickly as possible the goals to which Nigeria is committed, and to which all men of goodwill everywhere in the world ought to be committed.

CSO: 4420

OBASANJO ON ARMY DAY NOTES PROGRESS

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 7 Jul 79 p 12

[Text]

THE Head of State, General Olusegun Obasanjo, has noted with satisfaction the progress made so far by the army and in the areas of troops' accommodation, demobilisation exercises and the fire power of the army.

This was contained in his goodwill message to troops on the Army Day which was marked throughout the federation, yesterday.

General Obasanjo declared: "Looking at the army today I would state with satisfaction that tremendous progress has been made in a number of areas as an establishment".

First, is the commendable progress in barracks development as a result of which we can safely say that the worst in the way of accommodation problem is now safely behind our back," he said.

The head of state said other sources of satisfaction had been in the area of demobilisation, which in the past, was the cause of so much fear and discontent in the army.

He disclosed that side by side with demobilisation, plans were under way to rejuvenise the army.

As a result, he said, it had been decided that within the next six months some 2,000 young men would be recruited into the army to be trained in three batches at the Army Depot, Zaria.

The head of state said the programme of training and equipment of the army was progressing satisfactorily, adding that a stage would soon be reached when the army would justifiably feel proud of the status of professionalism, military preparedness and fire power.

General Obasanjo, however, noted that satisfactory progress toward a standard of professionalism and excellence could be fully reached with full sustained dedi-

cation and efforts by the entire members of the army.

Congratulating the army on its second anniversary celebration, the head of state expressed the hope that the army would not only endear the troops to the nation and every locality but would also serve as an inspiration for the people of any locality who would want to take up military career.

KANO STATE HADEJIA IRRIGATION PROJECT DISCUSSED

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 7 Jul 79 p 12

[Text]

THE Hadejia Valley Project in Kano State can reduce foreign exchange on food import by some 20 million Naira.

This observation was made by Alhaji Abbas Sami, Dan Iyaa Kano, in an address he read on behalf of the Chairman of the Hadejia/Jama'ara River Basin Authority, Alhaji Yebwaji Saleh at Hadejia.

The occasion was the opening of a \$70,000 Naira bridge described as an "indispensable access" to the Hadejia Valley Irrigation Project. It was named the "Haruna Abdulkadir Bridge."

The chairman revealed that a project area of 25,000 hectares lay between Hadejia and Kafin Hausa rivers and towns, adding that his authority had already embarked on the development of 12,500 hectares in the valley as a first phase of the project.

Water for the irrigation project would initially be supplied from Tiga Dam until the Kano River Project matures when water from the Chalawa Gorge Dam would supplement, he said.

The Hadejia Valley Project will provide employment for a very large number of farmers and other

people of the area. Some "luxury fruits and vegetables" could also be expected to Europe after satisfying local demands, the chairman said.

He revealed that about 150,000 - 200,000 tonnes of rice, wheat, maize, cowpeas, tomatoes, cotton and other vegetables which may fetch about 20 million Naira annually would be produced in the first phase.

In addition, substantial amount of sugarcane could be grown to warrant the establishment of a sugar refinery.

CSO: 4420

OBASANJO OPENS SOUTH CHAD IRRIGATION PROJECT

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 6 Jul 79 pp 1, 11

[Article by Sani Haruna]

[Text]

ALLOCATION of farm holding on irrigation projects throughout the country would be limited to a maximum of four hectares per farmer.

Speaking at the commissioning of the South Chad Irrigation Scheme in Maiduguri yesterday, the Head of State, General Olusegun Obasanjo, who discussed this, explained that the measure was to ensure that a maximum number of people benefited from the facilities provided on these projects.

In determining the actual holding of each farmer within the stipulated maximum hectares, General Obasanjo said that a number of local factors would be taken into consideration.

He, however, noted that appropriate adjustments in size of holding would be made in the case of co-operative farming units.

Each irrigation project, the head of state said, would be managed by the project management committee which would consist of representatives of the appropriate authority, the states covered by the project, the local governments and the farmers concerned.

General Obasanjo also disclosed that details on the mode of operation of the management committees to be set up to handle the allocation exercise would be spelt out clearly in a decree soon to be promulgated by the Federal Government.

He said that irrigated farming was a highly intensive type of farming, adding that facilities provided at the new South Chad Irrigation Project would enhance the possibility of growing two or three crops on the same piece of

land every year since the volume of water required to sustain such level of agricultural activity was now assured.

General Obasanjo reiterated the commitment of the present administration to the goal of making the country self-sufficient in food production and said that despite the recent fiscal constraints, the government had continued to make funds available for the execution of agricultural projects all over the country.

He said that the construction of the South Chad Irrigation project which started in 1974 had already claimed about 150 million Naira and by the mid-1980s when the project would be completed, about 500 million Naira would have been spent.

These sums of money, the head of state said, seemed heavy but added that if the long-term benefit to be derived from this project and others like it were taken into account, there was no doubt that they are indispensable for the welfare of the nation and its stability and security.

He noted with satisfaction the excellent relationship and good neighbourliness existing among all the peoples living in the Lake Chad basin.

OBASANJO SAYS PETROLEUM EXPLORATION TO BE EXPANDED

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 6 Jul 79 p 16

[Text]

THE number of petroleum exploration companies operating in Nigeria is to be tripled with a view to substantially increasing the production capacity of the country in the next few years.

To this end, reputable, technically competent and financially capable international petroleum companies are to be allowed to operate on a risk contract basis in the country.

These facts were disclosed in Lagos by the Chief of Staff, Supreme Headquarters, Major-General Shehu Musa Yar'adua, while addressing the 3rd annual symposium of the Nigerian Society of Petroleum Engineers.

The address was delivered by a member of the Supreme Military Council, Commodore Victor Oduwale.

While giving assurance that Nigeria was always ready to contribute in any way possible to the solution of problems plaguing the world community including the energy crisis, the chief of staff warned the world particularly the developed nations to drastically trim the excesses of their consumption of petroleum if the current energy crisis was to be contained.

He declared: "For the world community, the challenge of petroleum is to optimise the use of this commodity and prolong the availability of this finite resources."

Major-General Shehu Yar'adua urged the petroleum engineers and allied professional bodies to continue to develop and refine the

methods for maximising the recovery of petroleum by the safest possible means at the cheapest possible cost.

He also urged the society to gear itself towards effecting a meaningful transfer of technology to Nigerians in the petroleum industry.

In his own address, the Managing Director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Mr. F. I. Marinho, said Nigeria acquired 60 per cent participation in all debentures accruing from oil exploration in the country with effect from July 1.

Mr. Marinho said this represented an increase of five per cent on the former acquisition level.

He explained that the increase in acquisition was in line with the Nigerisation policy of the Federal Government.

The symposium which started on Wednesday will last three days.

Professionals in the petroleum industry are expected to deliver papers at the symposium whose theme is "Offshore Petroleum Prospecting in Nigeria."

The first symposium held in 1977

focused on "Know your oil industry", while the second, held last year discussed "Gas resource development in Nigeria".

BRIEFS

KANO POLITICAL CLASH--Forty-nine people have been arrested in Kano in connection with the political clashes in the city last weekend. Police vigil patrols have since been going round the city to forestall any further clashes. In an interview, the Kano State Commissioner of Police, Alhaji Mohammed Danmadami however denied rumours that three persons were shot dead in the weekend fracas. Alhaji Muhammad Danmadami said during the weekend fracas, some members of the People's Redemption Party (PRP) attacked houses of prominent members of the National Party of Nigeria (NPN) damaging them extensively. Commenting on an incident at Alhaji Aminu Kano's house during the clash, the commissioner explained that it was as a result of a stampede of fleeing PRP supporters who were being dispersed by the police for unlawfully assembling at Alhaji Aminu Kano's house. Some of the supporters later regrouped and began attacking the police with stones and missiles some of which strayed into Malam's residence shattering glass and window panes. [Excerpts] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 30 Jun 79 p 3]

SOCIAL SERVICES MINISTRY PROPOSAL--A recommendation that all the components of social development community development, social welfare, women's programmes, youth development and sports should be placed under one ministry at both federal and state levels, has been made. The recommendation is contained in a communique issued at the weekend in Abeokuta at the end of the 6th annual meeting of commissioners responsible for social development in the federation. The commissioners also resolved that there was a need for the Federal Government to evolve a comprehensive social services policy for the whole country. The conference reviewed the role of social development in improving the quality of life of Nigerians. It, therefore, recommended that the role should be recognised by the governments and given its top priority in the Fourth National Development Plan. [Excerpt] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 2 Jul 79 p 32]

POLISH FISHING TRAWLERS--Nigeria is now to pay less for fishing trawlers she intends to purchase from Poland. Originally, each unit of trawler is to cost \$138,000 (about 92,000 Naira) but this has now been cut down to \$124,000 (about 83,000 Naira). The cost of training Nigerians in Poland has also been considerably reduced. This followed talks in Lagos last Thursday between the Federal Commissioner for Agriculture and Water Resources, Mr. Bernard Mafeni and the visiting Polish delegation led by Mr Kaim. The commissioner had in the course of the talks, expressed

government's dissatisfaction with the high amount being charged by the Polish Government for each unit of trawler. He also pointed out that the cost of training Nigerian students in Poland was not in keeping with the original agreement between the two countries. Making the new offer which was accepted by both parties, the leader of the Polish delegation, Mr Kaim, expressed his country's willingness to trade with Nigeria. [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 3 Jul 79 p 11]

CHINA HEALTH AID--Nigeria and the Republic of China in Tuesday signed an agreement on the development of health programmes in Nigeria. The agreement was meant to aid Nigerians in drug production using Nigeria's natural resources. The Federal Commissioner for Health, Dr Peter Ogbang, signed on behalf of the Federal Government while Mr. D. N. Shengxian who led a team of four Chinese medical experts signed for the Republic of China. In a welcome address, the federal commissioner said the vital area of co-operation between the two countries was for the visiting team to direct Nigerians' efforts in drug production. Dr. Ogbang said the Chinese would have facility to use our drugs and laboratories throughout the country. Replying, Mr. Shengxian remarked that Nigeria had improved greatly in the medical field. Mr. Shengxian also said that with the earlier visit of Dr. Ogbang to China and which they followed up, the protocol had been completed. [Excerpts] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 12 Jul 79 p 12]

MALIAN IMMIGRANTS--Maliens resident in Nigeria are to be issued with ID cards by their embassy in Lagos. In an exclusive interview in Kano on Sunday, Mr. Allaye Cisse, First Counsellor in the Malian Embassy in the country said that the country's citizens in Nigeria would also be issued with passports to enable them to travel out with ease. Mr. Cisse explained that most of the Malians in Niger's left their country when the drought was very severe some years ago. Most of them settled in the northern parts of Nigeria, he added. He said the purpose of his visit to Kano was to confer with his people in order to know their problems and see what could be done to solve them. [Excerpt] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 5 Jul 79 p 20]

AVIATION FUEL SHORTAGE--Nigeria Airways is to reduce its passenger loads by half due to shortage of aviation fuel. A statement by the airline's Public Relations Manager, Mr. A. B. Abayomi, said the new measure would continue until the fuel situation improved. He disclosed that the fuel shortage which began on June 25, this year, was most acute in Kano, Kaduna, Port Harcourt and Calabar. [Excerpt] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 10 Jul 79 p 20]

KANO LAND OWNERSHIP LIMIT--An edict is to be enacted in Kano State limiting the number of plots owned by citizens of the state to two in Kano Metropolitan area and an additional one in any of the rural areas of the state. Group Captain Ishaya A. Shekari, the state's Military Administrator, announced this in his address to the inaugural meeting of the state's Land Use and Allocation Committee at the Africa House Hall of Government House,

Kano, on Wednesday. The edict would also limit plots owned by non-indigenes of the state to one in Kano Metropolitan and one in any of the rural areas. [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 7 Jul 79 p 12]

SOKOTO DAM PROJECT--A dam worth 96 million Naira is to be constructed by the Sokoto Rima River Basin Development Authority (SRRBDA) at Goronyo. A contract for the construction of the Goronyo dam has been signed between the authority's and Impresit Bakalori Nigeria Limited. The Impresit Company constructed the multi-million Naira Bakalori dam. The Chairman of the Authority, Alhaji Mu'azu Lamido, said the dam when constructed would provide an area of irrigation of about 35,000 hectares of land. The area to be irrigated would produce three crops yearly. The dam expected to be completed by 1982 would have a reservoir and an area of approximately 200 square kilometres. The multi-million Naira dam, the chairman said, was a second phase of the authority's programme aimed at controlling overflows of water from the Bakalori dam. [Excerpt] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 10 Jul 79 p 6]

CSO: 4420

POVERTY LEVEL INCREASE REPORTED

Salisbury THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 15 Jul 79 p 3

[Article by David Clemens: "Most Blacks in Cities Cannot Afford the Basics of Life"]

[Text]

URBAN blacks in Zimbabwe Rhodesia pay half as much again for the basic necessities of life today as they did five years ago, according to a University of Rhodesia study released yesterday.

The study is the 1979 cost update of the Urban Poverty Datum Line, published in 1974. The study was released at a University Press conference addressed by Miss Verity Cubitt, the sociologist who directed both the 1974 and 1979 research.

The Poverty Datum Line defines the minimum levels of income at which African families of various sizes can maintain "physical health and social decency", Miss Cubitt said. The study covers minimum consumption needs.

Miss Cubitt stressed that the PDL was not a minimum wage guideline prescription for family allowance.

But she said: "No employer can deny that this

is what it costs a family for the basics. It is up to the employer within his business framework to decide what part of these needs he is willing to cover."

With the war and the consequent refugee problem, it was certain that more urban families were living below the poverty line than in 1974, although exact figures could not be given, Miss Cubitt said.

The new study, which was begun in September 1978, shows that the cost of minimum needs of Salisbury African families have risen 45 percent in five years. The increase

was 63 percent for Bulawayo and 58 percent for Fort Victoria, the other two cities studied.

In each city, the needs of families were divided into nine categories, and

each was costed separately. The categories are food, clothing, fuel and lighting, personal care and health, household goods, transport, education, old-age provision and housing.

Further, a poverty line figure was calculated for families of 12 different sizes and compositions in each city.

In Salisbury, a family of two needs an income of \$40.17 per month to remain above the poverty line, while a family of eight needs \$143.22, according to the 1979 study.

The corresponding figures for 1974 were \$34.94 and \$93.59.

In Bulawayo, the 1979 PDL for a family of two is \$57.88, while for a family of eight it is \$148.84. The 1974 figures were \$34.84 and \$94.95.

In Fort Victoria, the 1979 PDL for a family of two is \$32.11 while for a family of eight it is \$137.03. The 1974 figures were \$33.31 and \$86.65.

OUT OF DATE

Miss Cubitt noted that even as the new figures were rereleased, they were out of date. In the months since the data was collected, she said, meat prices had gone up 11 percent, while mealie meal and milk had both risen eight percent.

Government statistics indicate that the country-wide average monthly wage in manufacturing is about \$80, while the average for commerce is about \$70.

Economic experts say that working women or children in some families supplement this head-of-family income, but that it could still be considered that most urban black families are living on or below the poverty line.

Miss Cubitt noted that the PDL calculations were for nuclear families only, and thus did not take into account the additional needs of families who might be keeping relatives who had left the rural areas.

"This is a very austere assumption which often does not reflect the reality in which urban African families live," she said.

CONCERN

However, she explained that because the 1979 study was only a recosting, the 1974 assumption of a nuclear family — father, mother and children — had not been changed.

Miss Cubitt said African families whose incomes had not kept pace with the rising PDL were a cause for concern.

But she said a more critical issue was that of rising unemployment among Africans — "the fact that there are more families unable to maintain any income. They too fall below the poverty datum line."

Copies of the new study had been sent to the Ministries of Labour and of Commerce and Industry, Miss Cubitt said, as well as to the Prime Minister's Office.

It is the Prime Minister, Bishop Muzorewa, who has warned blacks that the Government will not be able to satisfy their economic expectations until sanctions against Zimbabwe Rhodesia are lifted.

The release of the new PDL report, coming in a climate of increasing African expectation and just before the announcement of the new national budget, was "providentially" timed, joked the Principal of the University, Professor Robert Craig.

But Professor Craig, who was present at the Press conference, denied that the release timing was calculated "by human design".

Printing delays due to the April general election call-up had been a major factor in setting the release date.

**POVERTY DATUM LINES BY FAMILY IN DOLLARS MONTHLY
SALISBURY, SEPTEMBER, 1978**

UNIT	NO. IN FAMILY	FOOD	CLOTHING	FUEL AND LIGHTING	PERSONAL CARE AND HEALTH	HOUSEHOLD GOODS	TRANSPORT	EDUCATION	PROVISION FOR POST-EMPLOYMENT CONSUMPTION	ACCOMMODATION	TOTAL
A	2	20.65	6.14	7.25	2.11	3.62	4.66	-	3.39	12.35	60.17
B	3	24.01	7.81	7.25	2.18	3.78	4.66	-	3.39	12.35	65.43
C	4	32.17	9.52	7.25	2.62	5.25	4.66	0.70	3.39	12.35	77.91
D	4	36.97	9.80	7.25	2.99	6.21	4.66	1.47	3.39	12.35	85.09
E	5	40.83	11.43	7.25	3.05	6.37	4.66	1.47	3.39	12.35	90.80
F	5	47.74	11.51	7.25	3.10	7.33	4.66	3.33	3.39	12.35	100.66
G	6	51.43	13.18	7.25	3.48	7.84	4.66	4.10	3.39	12.35	107.68
H	6	55.90	13.46	7.25	3.54	8.80	4.66	4.10	3.39	12.35	113.43
J	7	60.09	15.13	7.25	3.92	8.96	4.66	4.87	3.39	12.35	120.62
K	7	65.24	15.41	7.25	3.97	9.92	4.66	4.87	3.39	12.35	127.06
L	8	71.68	17.08	7.25	4.41	10.43	4.66	4.87	3.39	12.35	136.12
M	8	75.16	17.12	7.25	4.40	11.39	4.66	7.20	3.39	12.35	143.22

**THE POVERTY DATUM LINE BY FAMILY IN DOLLARS
MONTHLY
SALISBURY, JANUARY 1974**

Unit	Number in Family	Food	Clothing	Fuel and Lighting	Personal Care and Health	Household Goods	Transport	Accommodation	Education	Provision for post-employment consumption	TOTAL
A	2	14.62	3.26	2.75	1.25	1.80	2.67	6.45	-	2.14	34.94
B	3	17.21	4.02	2.75	1.39	1.87	2.67	6.45	-	2.14	38.50
C	4	22.64	5.05	2.75	1.71	2.45	2.67	8.59	0.72	2.14	48.72
D	4	25.48	5.49	2.75	1.90	2.76	2.67	9.35	1.44	2.14	53.98
E	5	28.50	6.25	2.75	2.03	2.83	2.67	9.48	1.44	2.14	58.09
F	5	33.62	6.52	2.75	2.01	3.14	2.67	9.67	2.74	2.14	65.26
G	6	36.13	7.28	2.75	2.34	3.41	2.67	9.67	3.46	2.14	69.85
H	6	39.05	7.72	2.75	2.34	3.72	2.67	9.67	3.46	2.14	73.52
J	7	41.99	8.48	2.75	2.66	3.79	2.67	9.67	4.18	2.14	78.33
K	7	45.60	8.92	2.75	2.65	4.10	2.67	9.67	4.18	2.14	82.68
L	8	50.02	9.68	2.75	2.98	4.37	2.67	9.67	4.18	2.14	88.46
M	8	52.54	9.95	2.75	2.99	4.68	2.67	9.67	6.20	2.14	93.59

MASSIVE PETROL PRICE INCREASE HITS CONSUMERS

Salisbury THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 15 Jul 79 p 13

[Article by Keith Simpson]

[Text]

FASTEN your safety belts—you've seen nothing yet. That was the message to motorists last week from experts convinced that the latest massive petrol price increase, the fourth to hit Zimbabwe Rhodesia this year, is far from the end of the spiral.

How far the spiral will go is anybody's guess, but no one is ruling out the possibility that by the end of the year the motorist will be seeing little change out of \$3 after putting a unit in his tank—and the price could go even higher.

The reluctance to make firm predictions is understandable.

In March, after the first increase of the year putting the price of premium up from \$1.39 to \$1.66 a unit, experts told The Sunday Mail that the spiral could push the price as high as \$2 a unit by the end of the year.

Barely three months later, after April's two-cent-a-litre increase and the shock 20 percent hike at the end of May, motorists were already forking out \$2.11 a unit at the petrol pumps.

VOLATILE

And with the latest increase bringing the cost up to a staggering \$2.50 a unit the March predictions added up to so much crystal gazing.

Said one expert last week: "It would be

ridiculous to take a stab at where the spiral will end — the situation is just too changeable."

A spokesman for the Ministry of Commerce and Industry was in no mood for predictions either. Nor could he give any assurance that prices would not rise still more.

"We will certainly not increase prices unless they are justified by our procurement costs, but we are dealing with a very volatile market and I would hate to make predictions," he said.

Experts believe much will depend on the severity of the forthcoming winter in the northern hemisphere.

An early onset of cold weather, or a particularly harsh winter, could well increase competition for petroleum products for which the demand already exceeds supply. As the experts see it prices would inevitably escalate in the scramble.

Experts are also disappointed at the inability

of the major western oil using countries, particularly the United States, to put an effective brake on consumption.

"Britain is one of the very few countries to cut back; consumption is now below the country's 1973 level," said one expert.

"But as long as the rest of the world is prepared to use increasing quantities of fuel at increasing prices the spiral will continue. The world has only itself to blame for what is happening."

Equally disappointing were efforts to exploit alternative sources of energy.

South Africa, for instance, was one of the few countries energetically developing oil from coal production by rapidly expanding its SASOL plants.

In contrast, America had 100 pilot plants in operation, some of them of reasonable size, but none capable of producing oil from coal in any significant commercial quantities.

SOLAR ENERGY

In Zimbabwe Rhodesia intensive research has been going on for some time into the production of methanol and ethanol in an effort to cut the ever-increasing drain on oil imports on foreign currency.

In June the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Mr Ernest Buile, said it was hoped to have the first blend of ethanol and petrol available within 12 months.

This would reduce petrol imports by 15 percent, he said — at today's prices a substantial saving.

More hopes are pinned on solar energy, a source of power of which Zimbabwe Rhodesia has no shortage.

An increasing number of farmers are harnessing solar energy to dry their crops and there is a grow-

ing interest among manufacturers looking for alternatives to diesel, paraffin and coal in heating plants.

The number of delegates — so far 220 — due to attend a symposium devoted to the economic potential and practical construction of solar air heaters early next month is an indication of the growing interest in harnessing the sun's rays.

To be opened by the Prime Minister, Bishop Muzorewa, the main speaker will be Dr Austin Whillier, an international authority in the field.

Mr John West, Zimbabwe Rhodesia's energy resources adviser, said last week: "There is no doubt that interest in solar energy is beginning to take off. Properly exploited the sun could be a valuable alternative to petroleum fuels in many fields."

VEGETABLE OILS

His office was taking a close look at investigations by the Institute of Agricultural Engineering into soya bean and sunflower oil as an alternative to diesel to power tractors.

Last week the institute announced that a tractor, previously powered by diesel, was now running solely on soya bean oil.

It was estimated that half the country's tractors could go straight on to 100 percent vegetable oils without modification.

Means of modifying the rest were under development.

Besides tractors, some cars and many types of trucks, military vehicles and railway engines could run on home-grown vegetable oils.

While diesel is still the cheaper fuel there is confidence that vegetable oils, providing they justify themselves under prolonged trial, are bound to become economically viable both as a cheaper means of extraction is found and, as seems only too likely, the price of diesel continues to soar.

In any case vegetable oils could act as a valuable alternative for the farmer if events force the Government to cut the country's diesel imports. Vegetable oils could also save much valuable foreign currency. At present tractors eat up an estimated \$20 million worth of diesel a year.

"These experiments seem most sensible and worthwhile," commented Mr West.

To each fuel price rise the increasing reaction of the motorist in the street has been to ask himself: "Is my journey really necessary?"

Service stations report an increasing resistance to buying petrol which has resulted in an overall drop in sales at the pumps of about 20 percent over last year.

Said one garage owner: "The way things are going what is the point of continuing fuel rationing. It's now how much petrol the motorist can afford, not the number of coupons he is allocated."

Feeling the economic squeeze as much as anybody else, Mr West has launched his own personal programme to cut family motoring costs by running his car on a mixture of petrol and diesel.

"It's all quite unofficial

— nothing to do with the job. I'm just a private motorist trying to save a few cents.

"Adding diesel doesn't seem to affect the car's performance but it does lead to a certain amount of oiling up of the spark plugs. But it's only a few minutes work every month to check and clean them."

TAXI HIT

There is also evidence that more whites are leaving the car at home and taking to the buses, but Mr Peter Hornblow, general manager of the Salisbury United Omnibus Company felt these would return to their cars once the initial shock had worn off and they had grown used to the latest petrol price hike.

Recently approved increases in bus fares have at least helped bus operators bear the brunt of the increase, but taxi operators are less fortunate.

Taxi companies in Salisbury, Bulawayo and other centres applied to increase fares at the start of the year, but are still waiting for them to come into force.

With still more increases likely, the city council had also been asked for a speedier set-up all round in dealing with future fare applications.

"Unless things are speeded up very few operators will survive if fuel costs continue to go sky high," he said.

The present application was first made when fuel costs had represented 15 percent of taxi operating costs.

RHODESIAN motorists are unlikely to see much change, if any, out of \$2 putting a unit of petrol into their tanks at the end of the year.

BICYCLES

"Today, after four petrol price rises in a row, fuel now represents a third of our operating costs. The taxi companies themselves are getting very little return indeed."

No one has yet reported a run on roller skates, but the latest petrol price increase has definitely sparked a growing demand for any means of transport using less fuel or no fuel at all.

Whites are seen increasingly pedal-powering their way to work and bicycle shops are hard pressed to keep up with the demand.

Motorcycles, particularly models with low capacity engines, and still more economical putt-putts are also in heavy demand.

All of which adds up to a bleak picture on used car stands. While smaller cars are still in demand, no one is buying bigger fuel-guzzling models.

Gazing balefully at one particularly large American monster on his stand last week, a dealer said: "A buyer? Not a chance. If I have it on my hands much longer I'll be paying someone to drive it away."

CSO: 4420

IRVINE WARNS OF LACK OF MAIZE FOR EXPORT

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 13 Jul 79 p 1

[Text

Herald Correspondent: BULAWAYO

ZIMBABWE RHODESIA will have only enough maize next year for the country's needs, and there will be none for export, the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Bill Irvine, told a farmers' meeting in Bulawayo yesterday.

He said maize production had dropped by 40 percent since 1973. "We have lost a large part of the maize-growing area near the borders because of terrorist action.

"Other reasons are that the price has been too low to give the farmer confidence to grow maize and many farmers have turned to growing soya, which is a highly profitable crop.

"If we get a good season, there might be a little surplus; if it is a bad season, we will just get by."

Mr Irvine said he will do his best to stimulate maize-growing, as internal consumption is increasing from 10 to 15 percent a year.

INFLATION

He said inflation hit dairy farmers faster than other farmers and he promised that the prices of milk and other dairy products will be looked at on a six-monthly basis, instead of yearly.

"Hopefully, when we review the milk price in November, there will be an increase," he said.

On the beef industry in Matabeleland, he said he had a "radical" scheme for producers in outlying areas.

"I can say no more about it at this stage, but you will hear about it in the next two or three weeks," Mr Irvine said.

The tobacco industry "did its own thing" and was the most profitable sector of the industry.

Mr Irvine said he would like to see more farmers "doing their own thing", as they could run their own industry better than civil servants.

BUTTER

"Since butter production is not a profitable undertaking for the Dairy Marketing Board, I believe farmers should be allowed to make and sell their own butter, provided the premises meet the health standards.

"Sorghum is a controlled crop while barley is not. Many farmers are making a good living out of growing barley. Both crops are used for the same purpose, so there is a case here for the farmer 'doing his own thing'," said Mr Irvine.

At Hatcliffe Research Station, Salisbury, where experiments are being carried out to run tractors on soya and sun oil, he said the tractors were running 30 hours a day.

NEW OUTLOOK

After 500 hours, they will be stripped and checked to see if there is any engine damage.

"If successful, there could be a whole new outlook for farmers. I understand that the fuel can be made in an ordinary wine still, and this brings it within the orbit of farmers to make it themselves."

He suggested that when the experiments were proved, farmers could form themselves into groups to grow the crops and build an expressing plant to make the fuel.

OFFICIAL VIEWS DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 13 Jul 79 p 3

[Text]

Herald Reporter

A RACE was on between local and overseas development programmes for Zimbabwe Rhodesia, "and if we are behind it is possible that the path of future development in this country could emerge as largely the product of foreigners", warned the chairman of the Whitsun Foundation, Mr J. D. Carter, in Salisbury this week.

"That would be a great irony in view of the country's long, and soon to be successful struggle against colonial status," he told the organisation's annual meeting.

Mr Carter said Whitsun believed Zimbabwe Rhodesia's development should be determined by its people.

"We also believe that sufficient expertise exists among our own nationals — both in and outside the country — to prepare and execute well the development strategies needed to make majority rule effective and just to all.

"While this may well be clear to us, I have to state that there are powerful interests abroad working with substantial funding, whose development plans for the country are based on a precisely opposite premise — namely that the expertise to devise new development programmes is absent, and thus needs to be supplied from London, Washington and other capitals."

Whitsun's response to this, he added, was not necessarily to be critical, since most of these efforts were well intentioned and expatriate assistance has an important part to play in our future.

"It is a fact, however, that major development planning is under way outside this country which is being devised with little benefit or direct contact with the situation inside the country, the aspirations of its people and the nature and extent of available resources.

"Zimbabwe Rhodesia's own development plans must, therefore, be brought to rapid readiness by using local expertise together with as many Zimbabwe Rhodesians presently living abroad as can be brought home."

FOOD OUTPUT PROBLEMS REPORTED

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 13 Jul 79 p 5

[Text]

Herald Correspondent**BULAWAYO.**

THE notion that Zimbabwe Rhodesia has the potential to be the granary of Central and Southern Africa was described in Bulawayo last night by Professor M. A. Schweppenhauser as "largely erroneous".

Delivering his inaugural lecture as Professor of Crop Science at the University of Rhodesia, he analysed food and energy resources on a global scale, relating them to the increasing population.

Unless Zimbabwe Rhodesia applied itself intelligently to its agricultural needs there was a chance the country "could go the same way as Zambia, in terms of grain production", he said.

"Agricultural productivity in this country faces tremendous constraints, one of the major ones being the energy crisis.

It was becoming uneconomical for farmers to produce food crops as op-

posed to crops such as tobacco and cotton.

"Governments of under-developed countries all too often fall into the trap of implementing cheap food policies. Any possibility that Government could follow this trend would not augur well for commercial agriculture," said Professor Schweppenhauser.

"Population pressures in the tribal areas are now so enormous they cannot produce enough food for their own needs. A greater and greater proportion is having to be produced by the commercial sector."

Other major constraints to food productivity in Zimbabwe Rhodesia were the need for large annual inputs of fertiliser, the falling number of commercial farmers, and stock loss caused by the war and disease.

"We have lost a tremendous number of animals through disease. This has set us back at least 10 years.

"We will have to move rapidly towards increasing the number of intensive small farms, and we should study alternative food sources and ways to increase grain productivity in marginal agricultural areas," he said.

The ultimate solution would depend on the ingenuity of mankind in harnessing its natural resources while curbing its population growth rate.

MAIZE MEN CHALLENGE FERTILIZER COST

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 13 Jul 79 p 9

[Text] Fertiliser figures contained in the model of costs used by the government to determine the current producer price of maize were described as "unrealistic" and "rubbish" at the 10th congress of the Rhodesia Grain Producers' Association, held in Salisbury recently.

One of the delegates, Mr Bill Cumming, representing Salisbury branch, said the Government's cost-of-production figures were:

Labour	\$51.30
Tractor operation	39.70
Seed	11.00
Fertiliser and lime	75.31
Herbicide and insecticide	15.17
Transport	19.45
Levy	1.57
Crop insurance	1.47
Other	0.50
Total variable cost	<u>215.47</u>
Overheads	104.00
Total cost	<u>319.47</u>
Yield (tonnes/hectare)	<u>5.6</u>
Break-even price a tonne	\$57.04

Mr Cumming quoted a statement by the former Minister of Agriculture, Mr Mark Partridge, when he announced the producer price of maize of \$60.50 a tonne in May:

"We know that to produce a tonne of maize costs \$57 and some cents. And we know that in that is counted a reasonable standard of living for the farmer, and takes care of his general overheads. And when we set the price at \$60.50, we gave him a reasonable profit, and we gave him a little bit besides to take care of terrorism and that sort of thing."

Mr Cumming said he had been farming maize for 35 years and did not believe it was possible to produce a yield of 5.6 tonnes a hectare by investing only \$75.31 a hectare in fertiliser and lime.

He said: "It is not only the Ministry models which are incorrect, I am afraid the Rhodesia National Farmers' Union was also incorrect, because it agreed with the figures of \$75.31 for fertiliser."

Mr Cumming said the figure of \$75.31 represented 270 lb an acre of type D fertiliser; 22 lb an acre of type A.N.; and 450 lb an acre of lime.

He then made his own assessment (with the help of figures supplied by a fertiliser company) of a farmers' fertiliser requirements when producing yields from 5.8 to 6.8 tonnes a hectare.

The figures were:

Labour	\$51.30
Tractor operation	39.70
Seed	11.00
Fertiliser and lime	110.00
Insecticide and herbicide	25.00
Transport	21.00
Levy	1.70
Crop insurance	1.50
Other	0.50
Total variable cost	261.70
Overheads	104.00
Total costs	365.70
Yield (tonnes/hectare)	6.0
Break-even price a tonne	\$60.95

The fertiliser figure of \$110 represented 350 lb an acre of type D; 350 lb an acre of type A.N.; and 450 lb an acre of lime.

Mr Cumming said farmers producing a 6-tonne yield would use these high rates of fertiliser.

"They have the rain and would be silly not to use that much fertiliser. Also, in the wetter areas, they would use a more sophisticated herbicide, a lasso/atrazine mix, which costs \$25 a hectare."

Areas producing yields varying from 5.8 tonnes to 6.8 tonnes, according to Intensive Conservation Areas figures, for 1971 to 1977 (omitting the 1972/73 drought), were:

Acturus 6.8; Barwick 6.6; Glendale 6.5; Marodzi Tatagura 6.5; Karoi Central 6.1; Umvukwes 6.2; Ayrshire North 6.1; Horseshoe 6.1; Centenary West 6.0; Salisbury West 5.9; Banket Eldorado 5.9; Doma 5.9; Centenary East 5.9; Angwa North 5.9, Angwa South 5.8.

Mr Cumming then dealt with the next group of farmers who were producing yields from 5.3 to 5.7 tonnes.

His cost model here was:

Labour	\$51.30
Tractor operation	39.70
Seed	11.00
Fertiliser and lime	97.00
Insecticide and herbicide	13.58
Transport	19.00
Levy	1.40
Insurance	1.20
Other	0.50
Total variable cost	234.68
Overheads	104.00
Total costs	338.68
Yield (tonnes/hectare)	5.4
Break-even price a tonne	\$62.72

A breakdown of the figure of \$97 for fertiliser was: 315 lb an acre of type D; 315 lb an acre of type A.N.; 450 lb an acre of lime. The herbicide used here would be atrazine, said Mr Cumming.

ICAs likely to be using this level of fertiliser were Norton 5.7; Ayrshire South 5.6; Karoi North 5.6; Gvebi Hunyani 5.5; Karoi South 5.5; Trelawney 5.4; Tengwe 5.4 and Selous 5.3

Mr Cumming said he "finally found a home for the Ministry's fertiliser figures" among ICAs where the average yield ranged from 5.1 to 4.3 tonnes/hectare.

"It seemed to me these chaps would use fertiliser at the Ministry's level. They would not be able to afford a herbicide, it is too dry in those areas."

Here, his cost model was:

Labour	\$51.30
Tractor operation	39.70
Seed	11.00
Fertiliser and lime	75.00
Insecticide and herbicide	—
Transport	15.00
Levy	1.00
Insurance	1.00
Other	0.50
Total variable cost	194.50
Overheads	104.00
Total costs	298.50
Yield (tonnes/hectare)	4.7
Break-even price a tonne	\$63.50

"I may not know exactly what it costs to produce a tonne of maize, unlike the previous Minister of Agriculture, but I am absolutely certain that I am very much closer to reality than the Ministry," said Mr Cumming.

ICAs likely to spend \$75 a hectare on fertiliser were: Marandellas North 5.1; Darwendale 5.1; Shamva 5.0; Beatrice 5.0; Bromley 4.8; Umfuli 4.7; Suri-Suri 4.7; Ruwa 4.7; Wedza South 4.6; Marandellas West 4.6; Virginia 4.5; Gadzema 4.4; Umgweswe 4.4; Mount Darwin 4.3; Mtoko 4.3 and Macheke 4.3.

Mr Cumming produced the models when speaking in favour of a motion reading:

"This congress feels that the cost of production models as produced by the Ministry of Agriculture are divorced from reality."

The motion was seconded by a lecturer at the University of Zimbabwe Rhodesia and a Headlands farmer, Mr Louis de Swardt.

CSO: 4420

TERROR RAID ON AMPER FARM, OTHER CLASHES REPORTED

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 20 Jul 79 p 1

[Text] Gwelo. A Somabula farmer's wife, Mrs Susanna Botha (50), and her grandson, Albertus Smith, who would have been three on Saturday, were murdered by a terrorist at their Amper farm, about 65 km south of Gwelo, on Wednesday night.

Her husband, Mr Abraham Lodewikus Botha (60), and their granddaughter, Beulah (18 months), were slightly wounded in the attack, a Combined Operations Headquarters communique said last night.

The four were attacked when they arrived back on their farm at about 6.30 pm after a visit to Gwelo, our Midlands Representative reports.

Mrs Susanna Smit, mother of the dead boy, said her children were living with their grandparents. After visiting her in Gwelo on Wednesday the four of them left for the farm just after 4 pm, accompanied by one of their workers, Mr Gideon.

"Gideon opened the security fence and let them in and they drove round to the back door where they stopped," she said.

"My dad saw an African walking from the kraal and suddenly this man opened fire from outside the security fence about 30 metres away. None of them was hit in that burst, but it hit the windscreen of the car.

"The terrorist went round to the back gate which had been left open and told my mum: 'Don't shoot,' as she had a gun, an LDP, in her hand. She told him to throw down his gun and then he opened fire on her.

"My dad, with his one leg (his artificial leg was not attached) was trying to get out of the car and open the doors of the house.

"Then he took the gun from my mum and the terrorist opened fire again, but he wasn't hit. The gun was shot out of his hands.

"The terrorist fired again and hit my mum three times. My little boy ran right to where the terrorist was standing.

"When he saw my mum falling he ran back to her, got the gun, and took it into the house where he put it on the table near my dad.

"Then he ran out again and the terrorist shot him. My dad fired one shot and the terrorist ran."

Mrs Smit said her boy had died instantly and her mother died two hours after the incident in the farmhouse. She had been shot five times. The boy was shot twice.

Mr Botha was wounded in the arm.

The family had lived in Somabula since the forties. Mr Botha worked in Gwelo and did weekend farming until about five years ago when he took up farming full-time.

A family friend said Mr Botha crawled on his knees when he got the baby into the house. He also tried, on his knees, to pull Mrs Botha into the house. Before he was shot the little boy was running backwards and forwards between the terrorist and his two grandparents. He was trying to help.

The communique also reports the deaths in action of two members of the security forces.

They were Corporal Trevor John Speight, a former pupil of Guinea Fowl School (25), single, who came from Hartley, and Constable Lawrence Murungweni (21), single, who came from the Bindura district.

In separate incidents, terrorists murdered three tribesmen: Mr Jeremiah Chaparadza, Mr Murungwe Rugayi and Mr Dixon Maposa.

Security forces have killed 18 terrorists and seven terrorist collaborators.

CSO: 4420

AFRICAN TEACHERS STAGE WAGE PROTESTS

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 20 Jul 79 pp 1,2

[Text] Hundreds of African primary school teachers demonstrated in Salisbury, Bulawayo, Gwelo, Que Que and Gatsoma yesterday. Police made arrests in Bulawayo and Que Que and the Minister of Education, Mr Mazaiwana, has promised to take the teachers' complaints to the Cabinet on Tuesday.

Mr Mazaiwana was shouted down yesterday when he faced more than 500 protesting teachers outside the Ministry of Education offices in Union Avenue, Salisbury.

Thousands of black primary school children had to be sent home as the teachers left their classrooms to protest for the third successive day against what they claim are unequal pay conditions.

As the teachers gathered in Salisbury they halted traffic and the Police appealed to them to clear the road. They moved off and waited throughout the morning before the Minister came on to the steps of Ambassador House with the Secretary for Education, Mr A. J. Smith, and members of the national executive of the Zimbabwe Teachers' Association.

The Minister was jeered as he tried to speak to the teachers, but managed to tell them their grievances had been seriously noted and he would bring up the matter at the Cabinet meeting on Tuesday.

The demonstrators began to shout "too late" and "no money, no teaching". As the Minister tried to quieten them they continued to barrack him, saying they had been promised pay increases previously and now wanted immediate action.

The Minister said he did not have the power to call an emergency Cabinet meeting but assured the teachers the matter would not be brushed aside. Something would be done as soon as possible.

"Meanwhile, I appeal to you teachers to consider two things: Think about the children and the war situation we are in. I know you have genuine grievances, but you will not get anywhere by being aggressive," he said.

Mr Mazaiwana asked the teachers to go back to their homes and schools and continue their work. He said the Ministry appreciated their efforts.

The teachers booed the Minister and began to shout for the Secretary, Mr Smith, to talk to them. Mr Smith explained he was merely a civil servant and could do no more than put their proposals to the Minister, who would take up the matter with the Cabinet.

Once again

He said he had been aware of the teachers' problems for some time but had no control over the amount of money granted for salaries.

When the Minister again addressed the crowd he said he would immediately brief the Prime Minister about their grievances.

The teachers agreed they would demonstrate again next Tuesday, the day the Minister promised them their case would be put before the Cabinet.

They also said they

were not going back to teach until the Government acceded to their demands.

A third of the demonstrators went on to Milton Buildings where they again met Mr Mazaiwana.

He entreated them to be patient and to act like responsible people because their behaviour did not help to improve things.

Mr Jonathan Gapara, president of the Zimbabwe Teachers' Association, asked the demonstrators

to allow the Minister and Mr Smith to have their say.

He said his association had looked into the matter of salaries very closely with the Secretary and the Minister, and had impressed upon them the seriousness of the case.

"The Minister is going to take this matter to the highest levels — you must be patient and realise the problems involved," he added.

Police yesterday arrest-

ed 240 teachers demonstrating in Bulawayo and 90 from several schools in the Que Que town area, a Police spokesman said in Salisbury last night.

They were arrested after refusing to disperse, the spokesman said.

Teachers demonstrating in Gwelo dispersed after requests by the Police. No action was taken.

The protest in Bulawayo took place outside the offices of the Education Department at 2 p.m.

"The Police Officer Com-

manding Bulawayo Central and Suburban Districts told the crowd to disperse," the spokesman said. Repeated calls were made by the Police. The crowd chose to ignore these instructions.

"A spokesman for the group was called for but no one came forward. The regional education officer agreed to see a delegation selected by the crowd. This offer was refused.

"The teachers carried placards calling for pay increases.

"In view of their refusal to disperse, they were removed from the road and pavement and taken to Bulawayo Police camp. They were told they had been arrested for contravening Section 3(g) of the Miscellaneous Offences Act-- obstructing free passage along a thoroughfare, sidewalk or pavement."

All will appear in court in Bulawayo today.

The demonstration in Que Que at 1.15 pm was at St Martin's Mission, Amaveni, the spokesman said.

"From there they went along two roads. They were stopped by Police on the Amaveni road. Police told them to disperse and warned that if they regrouped they would be arrested and prosecuted. They dispersed.

"They later regrouped in First Street, Que Que, and marched to Second Street, where they were again stopped by police.

"They were escorted to the District Commissioner's office and taken to Que Que Police Station. They will be charged for contravening Section 3(g) of the Miscellaneous Offences Act."

ZITA Told To Await Salary Review

THE Ministry of Education negotiates conditions of service for African teachers through the Zimbabwe Teachers' Association, the Secretary for Education, Mr John Smith, said yesterday.

He said ZITA was recognised by the Minister of Education in terms of section 50(1) of the Education Act.

In a prepared statement, Mr Smith said: "Section 50(2) of the Education Act states that 'An association of teachers recognised by the Minister may advise and make representations to the Secretary . . .'

"This is an ongoing process. I attended the ZITA conference in Gwelo recently and the Minister and I met the ZITA executive on June 29. A further meeting was subsequently arranged for 10.30 this (Thursday) morning, to be attended by the Minister, the ZITA executive and myself.

ADJUSTMENT

"At the meeting on June 29, it was announced to the ZITA executive that it seemed that a general review of salaries would not take place this year in the civil service at large or for teachers in the unified teaching service.

"Nevertheless, the Ministry had been successful in obtaining an interim salary adjustment at a cost of \$3 million for the worst paid teachers. This would result in the minimum which had been raised from \$750 a year to \$1 200 a year, on July 1, 1978, being further adjusted to \$1 512 a year, with effect from July 1, 1979. It would also result in a shortening of the salary scale from 30 steps to 15 steps because of the introduction of larger annual increments.

"At the meeting to which I have referred the executive was asked to submit its proposals for teachers' salary scales in the next general review authorised by Government.

'ACCEPTED'

"It has always been accepted that the African teachers who took the three-year teachers' certificate based on Junior Certificate, but who acquired a Cambridge Certificate, would eventually be admitted to Scale B, which is the salary scale approved by the Public Service Commission for the category of teachers with five 'O' levels plus three years professional training.

"The most important point at issue is the speed of implementation and this, together with the low starting salary, has precipitated the present unrest.

"At the meeting held this morning (Thursday) the Minister of Education agreed as a matter of urgency to convey the representations of the teachers to Cabinet for immediate consideration of the line of action to be followed."

NEW SENATORS SAMURIWO, TSHUMA PROFILED

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 20 Jul 79 p 6

[Text] Dr Isaac Samuriwo (62), agricultural demonstrator and businessman, is now a senator.

He was born in the Chihota district and went to school at Domboshawa. He gained a first-class diploma in agriculture at the Tsolo School of Agriculture in South Africa.

Dr Samuriwo has a substantial interest in the transport and retail trading fields.

In 1976 he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama for his work at Nyatsine College near Salisbury. He had been a member of the college's board of governors since its inception 15 years ago.

Dr Samuriwo was a Member of Parliament in the Territorial and Federal governments.

Senator Moses James M. Tshuma (48), was a teacher for more than 13 years and chairman of several branches of the then Rhodesian African Teachers' Association.

He was born in the Shabani district. After he gave up teaching he became an interpreter-recorder with the Rhodesia Railways personnel branch. He was later appointed an instructor of supervisors.

Mr Tshuma joined the UANC at its inception, becoming a member of the national executive.

CSO: 4420

OFFICIAL DISPUTES 'HERALD' MAIZE STATISTICS

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 20 Jul 79 p 10

[From the Letters to the Editors]

[Text]

SIR — I refer to an article on maize fertiliser costs which appeared in the July 13 issue of the Herald.

I do not wish to be drawn into costs of production arguments through the medium of the Press at this juncture, for the issue is the subject of continuing discussion between the RNFU and this Ministry.

Nevertheless, to the extent that the article employs figures which purport to come from the Ministry, it is necessary to correct such errors.

The maize fertiliser application rates stated by Mr Cummings to apply in the so-called model costings are 270 lb an acre of type D fertiliser; 225 lb an acre of type AN (misprinted as 22 lb); and 450 lb an acre of lime which result in a figure of \$75.31 a hectare.

The actual application rates used in the Ministry model were 312 lb an acre of type D; 175 lb an acre of type AN and 225 lb an acre of lime.

In metric terms the rates are 350 kg; 200 kg and 250 kg per hectare respectively.

These figures have been extracted from the Conex budget guide as appropriate for the attainment of the yield of 5.6

tonnes per hectare assumed in the model.

The Conex figures represent the reasonable average recommendations of the Chemistry and Soil Science Research Institute of the Department of Research and Specialist Services.

Mr Cummings was making the point that more "realistic" fertiliser application rates as advised by one of the fertiliser companies would be 350 lb an acre of type D; 350 lb an acre of type AN; and 450 lb an acre of lime, at a cost of \$110.

It is regrettable that we were neither advised of, nor called upon to comment on Mr Cummings' presentation at the recent Grain Producers' Conference.

This and other inaccuracies and misconceptions could have been corrected.

E. OSBORN.

Secretary for Agriculture,
Salisbury.

© As we were merely reporting remarks made by a delegate to the Grain Producers' Association's congress there was clearly no need for us to refer our report to the Ministry of Agriculture. — Editor.

INTEGRATION OF BLACKS INTO DEFENSE SYSTEM HAILED

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 20 Jul 79 p 10

[Editorial: "Their Chance Now"]

[Text]

THE intake of national servicemen who began their training at Llewellyn Barracks this week was the first contingent of men to report since the advent of majority rule.

In round figures 1 500 reported for duty. Of these 1 300 were black. It was a convincing demonstration of the Government's promise to implement its policy of involving the community as a whole in the defence of the State.

The numbers reporting were in sharp contrast to the intake at the beginning of this year when only about 300 black recruits presented themselves at the barracks.

No doubt this improvement was due at least partly to the installation of the new government.

The deputy Minister of Manpower, Mr Mutasa, made this point when he said that now there was majority rule objections to conscription fell away as far as many people were concerned.

Our national servicemen have done a splendid job in the past in helping to protect the country. Men of the latest intake have the chance now to show their ability and willingness to serve.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

ARMY KILLS 'MUTINOUS ELEMENTS'--Informed sources in Salisbury have said that the terrorist Rhodesian army has killed a further 51 mutinous elements of the regime's troops in continuing search-and-destroy operations aimed at suppressing the ongoing disorder. Another 220 mutineers have been arrested. The sources said that the search-and-destroy operations were launched after captured elements who survived Friday's operation disclosed that senior officers of the terrorist army had masterminded the mutiny of the so-called auxiliary forces. The Salisbury sources add that the older members of the terrorist army, war weary and disillusioned by the failing policies of the Smith-Muzorewa regime, are using discontented newer members to further their cause. The well-coordinated conspiracy within the army is reportedly aimed at spreading discontent and insubordination with the army, especially among the black elements. [Text] [Maputo Voice of Zimbabwe in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 22 Jul 79 LD/CA]

MUZOREWA TOURS MILITARY CENTERS--The prime minister, Bishop Muzorewa, has completed a tour of military operations centers throughout the country during which he held discussions with senior members of the Security Forces. Addressing closed meetings during his 3-day tour, Bishop Muzorewa promised that democracy will be upheld and the war will be won. He praised the efficiency of the Security Forces and their dedication to duty and assured them of a secure future. The prime minister pointed out that the terrorist leaders, Nkomo and Mugabe, want to destroy the democracy we have established in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia and this will not happen. He assured the members of the Security Forces that he did not encounter major problems about the constitution during his recent visit to the United States and Britain. The bishop asserted his belief that Zimbabwe-Rhodesia will receive international recognition within 3 months. Bishop Muzorewa promised members of the Security Forces that government will not interfere with the promotion structure and that as soon as the situation allows, his government proposes to review salary scales. He gave them a firm pledge that pensions will be paid. During the tour the prime minister was accompanied by the commander, Combined Operations, General Walls; Army Commander Lt Gen Sandy Maclean; the Air Force commander, Frank Russell; the minister of law and order, Mr Zindoga; the minister of home affairs, Mr Zimuto; and several high-ranking military officers. The prime minister made the tour immediately prior to launching the government's amnesty program in a television and radio broadcast to the nation today and tomorrow. [Text] [Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 21 Jul 79 LD/CA]

DIPLOMATIC BAG DESTROYED--Government and railway officials are still trying to unravel the mystery of a diplomatic bag which arrived at the Salisbury railway station parcels office on Tuesday night and was blown up in a controlled explosion by the bomb disposal squad yesterday morning. Bearing the inscription "Rhodesian Diplomatic Mission," the canvas bag arrived by train from Bulawayo on Tuesday, apparently having been forwarded from Johannesburg. Railway officials contacted the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the South African Diplomatic Mission in Salisbury, neither of which could shed any light on the matter. The Police were called and the controlled explosion followed at 10.30 am yesterday. The contents of the bag were described by a Police spokesman as "innocuous." A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said a member of his staff had been told to investigate the matter. "It certainly is a mystery. We don't send things by rail," the spokesman said. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 20 Jul 79 p 3]

CSO: 4420

NEED FOR FURTHER GROWTH OF PARLIAMENTARY PRIVILEGE NOTED

London WEST AFRICA in English 9 Jul 79 p 1196

[Text]

IT IS TO BE HOPED that the new Secretary-General of Sierra Leone's All Peoples Congress, Dr. Siaka Stevens — he was appointed by a resolution of the recent party convention in Freetown — has spoken most explicitly to the assistant Secretary-General, Mr. E. T. Kamara, who was the President's predecessor as party Secretary General, on the matter of parliamentary privilege, and explained that in a democracy a Member of Parliament is granted certain privileges on the floor of the House so that he may pursue the interests of constituents — he is their representative, not delegate — without hindrance.

The Member for Port Loko South, Mr. S. A. T. Koroma, a former cabinet minister who is now a back bencher, raised during the Parliamentary debate on the Presidential Address a matter of considerable public interest, belief and gossip.

For this exercise of his privilege and duty Mr. Koroma received a strongly worded letter from Mr. E. T. Kamara demanding that he "show reason within 48 hours why he should not be dismissed from the APC for making a statement in Parliament that Government had granted licences to Lebanese traders to import rice when in truth, and in fact, no such licence had been granted to any Lebanese trader".

When the allegation was made by Mr. Koroma in Parliament, it was denied by the Minister of Trade and Industry, after which Mr. Koroma promptly and properly withdrew his remarks.

No doubt the matter of whether Mr. Kamara's letter does, as would appear *prima facie*, infringe the privileges of Parliament — and hence breach the Constitution — is being decided by the constitutional lawyers of Sierra Leone. That is a legal matter; there is, however, another and possibly more important aspect of this episode. In a one-party state such as Sierra Leone it is most important that, if democracy is to be preserved and be seen to survive, the party organisation must distance itself from the elected Members of Parliament in their daily work; it should offer them support and guidance when they seek it but eschew any hint of direction or coercion. To coin a metaphor, to the MP as a warhorse of Parliament the party should be a groom not a rider. It is understandable that a party may be sorely displeased by some of the activities of an MP but it should behave like any other citizen and restrain itself from taking disciplinary action against the infuriating individual until election time, when it can then expel the member if it so wishes.

To behave otherwise must raise fears that the party is merely using its Parliamentary members as rubber stamps. But no doubt President Stevens, himself a skilful Parliamentarian, has explained this cogently to Mr. E. T. Kamara.

PETROLEUM NICKEL-COPPER DEPOSITS DISCOVERED

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 11 Jul 79 p 1

[Text]

TANZANIA has struck oil in the south of the country. But the actual amount usable for petrol is not clear.

The country's Minister for Water, Energy and Minerals, Al-Noor Kassum, told Parliament in Dar es Salaam last night that the government was sorting out data on the oil deposit.

He announced that Italian oil firm Agip has allocated Sh. 56 million for exploration next year.

Mr. Kassum said the oil was discovered when experts were drilling gas wells at Songo Songo, near Songea.

Oil exploration in Tanzania has been carried out by Agip and American Oil Corporation (AMCO) since 1969 and plans

have been under way to invite another international oil firm to make an independent exploration in the country.

One of the surveys is to determine the exact amount of oil and whether or not it can be exploited commercially.

On the Songo Songo gas project, Mr. Kassum said more than 500,000 cubic metres of gas would be exploited a day. The amount is enough to meet Tanzania's domestic and industrial needs.

The Minister also said nickel-copper had been discovered in the country and some 16,000 sq. metres of land surveyed under a UNDP-funded project. Tanzania has a large amount of copper.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

LOME PORT TRAFFIC STATISTICS--During the first 10 months in 1978, port traffic in Lome amounted to 876,000 tons of imports (of which 334,100 tons were for petroleum products and 273,900 tons for clinker) and to 331,500 tons for exports (of which 14,700 were for cocoa and 5,500 tons for coffee). [Text] [Paris EUROPE OUTREMER in French No 591, Apr 79 p 34]

CSO: 4400

OIL PROSPECTING IN WESTERN PROVINCE PLANNED

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 14 Jul 79 p 1

[Article by Fanwell Zulu]

[Text]

PROSPECTING will start soon in the Western Province and Luangwa district where oil deposits have been discovered, Minister of Mines, Mr Mufaya Mumbuna disclosed yesterday.

Mr Mumbuna said due to high costs of the exercise, the Government would ask foreign petroleum experts for help and make it a joint venture.

His remarks follow findings by the Geological Survey Department of large tracts of "Karoo sandstones and mudstones" which are known to contain oil and coal.

The deposits are located on the west side of the Zambezi river and the middle of the Luangwa river. The Geological Survey Department has proposed an oil drilling programme

expected to cost about K50 million.

Speaking during a seven-hour inspection tour of the Geological Survey Department in Lusaka, Mr Mumbuna said: "Oil is suspected to be in the Luangwa district and Western Province. We will do our best to prospect these areas."

The oil discovery follows a K6 million five-year airborne survey of the country making Zambia the only African country to have such a survey which has been the main factor behind the recent uranium findings.

Mr Mumbuna appealed for more funds for the department for prospecting as it was a costly venture.

"With the world oil crisis, we must be self-reliant and have our own oil although this will take a lot of effort."

He added that it would cost almost K60 million just to sink an oil borehole.

"I want the Government to give me more money to carry

out President Kaunda's directive to diversify Zambia's mineral potential. With more money and staff, we can do it," he said.

He added: "Instead of mourning about the bad economic situation, we can put the little money we have into the Geological Survey Department because the benefits are substantial."

According to the department's officials, the Government allocated K2 million this year as capital expenditure and K1 million as recurrent expenditure.

This was far below what they needed if they were to carry out their work effectively.

The World Bank last year named Zambia among several African countries who would be loaned money for oil and gas explorations.

The bank's consideration for more funds to the developing countries for prospecting "oil was in view of the rising costs of imported oil.

Director of the Geological Survey, Dr Fred Thierne, said early this year that his department had put forward proposals in the Third National Development Plan for an oil

drilling programmes on the west side of the Zambezi river and the middle of the Luangwa river.

He said then that although chances for the discovery of oil were not high, the programme would enable the department to prospect for other rocks in the area.

Funds

Yesterday, Dr Thieme told Mr Mumbuna of the need for more funds and complained of "redtape" in the ministry which affected the work of geologists.

Lack of transport, lack of proper maintenance "and the bousy attitude of Mechanical Services Branch (MSB) officials are affecting the work of my staff."

He said in one case, a controller from MSB grabbed keys of a Land-Rover from a driver of the department without permission, saying the vehicle was of much use at MSB than at the Geological Survey Department.

"In most cases geologists end up sitting here instead of going out into the bush because of lack of transport. Some of our experts have been without accommodation for months yet these are the people we can not do without," he told the minister.

Mr Mumbuna also heard that the department had been prospecting for gold for the past five years and it was unable to analyse its findings because of lack of a furnace and foreign exchange.

Mr Mumbuna said: "I will seriously urge the Ministry of Finance to look into the needs of the department and I will propose for higher estimates because this department is the money spinner of the Government."

CSO: 4420

ZAMBIA

MORE OFFERS OF MAIZE REPORTED

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 13 Jul 79 p 5

[Text] More countries have offered to give Zambia maize and detailed talks are going on, Minister of State for Agriculture and Water Development, Mr. Jameson Kalaluka, said in Lusaka yesterday.

Mr Kalaluka said Zambia had now received 16,000 tonnes of maize from South Africa although 25,000 tonnes had already been paid for. The balance is expected soon.

He explained that the 16,000 tonnes of maize was part of the 50,000-tonne consignment Zambia would buy from Pretoria.

Mr Kalaluka said letters of credit had already been issued for the remaining 25,000 tonnes.

Zambia had also received maize from Malawi and the United States. Offers from other countries are being awaited.

"We will find out from the countries when we shall have this maize and why it is taking so long," he said.

He said one of these offers was from the Italian government which promised 5,000 tonnes.

Mr Kalaluka also said talks were going on with the American authorities on their maize offer which was expected in the country soon.

Meanwhile, traditional rulers in Eastern Province have been urged to mobilise their subjects to take the agrarian revolution seriously in order to increase food production.

The province's member of the Central Committee, Mr Joshua Mumpanshya said President Kaunda had given a directive to all chiefs to mobilise their subjects to grow more food so as to increase production, which would enable the nation to be self-sufficient in its food requirements.

Mr Mumpanshya assured farmers that the party and its Government would buy all their produce and provide them with farming requisites to enable them to succeed in their work.

He warned civil servants and parastatal workers who went on drinking sprees during working hours to stop or risk dismissal once reported to his office.

CSO: 4420

ZAMBIA

AID AGREEMENT WITH ROMANIA SIGNED

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 12 Jul 79 p 2

[Text] The government has signed contract agreements worth about K12 million with Romanian companies to supply Zambia with tractors, minibuses and various farming implements.

Disclosing this in Lusaka on Tuesday, Minister of Works and Supply, Mr Haswell Mwale, who has just returned from Romania said the contract was signed with Universal Tractors, Auto Dacia and Auto Export--all import companies.

Mr Mwale who was in the delegation led by Finance Minister, Mr Joshua Lumina, said the companies would supply Zambia with 600 tractors other farming implements, 35 tipper trucks, 25 flat trucks, six water tankers and two mobile workshops.

Other equipment will include 70 mini buses, 833 jeeps and that all the contracts negotiated included supply of 20 per cent spare parts and training of Zambian personnel on the job in Zambia and Romania to ensure maintenance of the equipment.

Meanwhile, the commissioning of the K8.5 million Choma maize mill is expected to take place at the end of August or early September, a spokesman for Indeco said in Lusaka.

"Work is progressing well and we are optimistic that commissioning will take place in late August or early September," the spokesman said.

The maize mill which will be run by an Indeco subsidiary--Choma Milling Company, will have a grinding capacity of 300 tonnes a day.

The plant will grind 6.5 tonnes of maize in an hour and produce 110 tonnes of breakfast meal in 24 hours. Roller meal will be produced at the rate of 150 tonnes per 24 hours.

The spokesman said early this year that the mill would go a long way in meeting demand for mealie meal in Southern and parts of the Western provinces.

At the beginning of the construction, the project experiences shortages of materials such as asbestos sheeting galvanized pipes, reinforcement bars and ply for doors.--ZANA.

EXPLOITATION OF GOLD DEPOSITS ENCOURAGED

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 16 Jul 79 p 1

[Text]

ENTERPRISING people are wanted to mine two gold deposits at Chainda near Lusaka and at Momboshi in Kabwe, the Ministry of Mines has said.

Director of the Geological Survey Department, Dr Fred Thieme said over the weekend that the deposits would be viable small mines and that two places had been drilled.

"The department spent K300,000 on drilling the deposits over the past three years. All that is needed are people to take up gold mining in the areas," he said.

The Chainda deposit, which is 40 kilometres from Lusaka on the Great East Road, had an ore-bed which is 540 metres long, 30 metres wide and contained 32,400 tonnes of ore near the surface.

The ore's gold content is 162,000 grammes and it has an average grade of five grammes per tonne, he said.

The Momboshi deposit has similar grades of ore and gold.

"Dr Thieme said the third mine on Leopards Hill road, Chumbwe mine, was already being run by two Australian brothers.

Geology

He said Geological Survey Department was ready to assist the public on all matters relating to geology and mineral resources, but they should be prepared to work.

He said there was need for small scale mining and the Government could help a lot by providing required advice on such mining.

Dr Thieme complained that the Mines Development Department of the Ministry of Mines lacked staff and was being neglected. "Nobody has bothered to develop this department which is the one that must assist the public by providing advice on mining," he said.

He noted that in other countries small scale mining helped sustain their economies.

He called on the Government to seriously look into the possibility of small scale industries instead of embarking on "grandiose projects which did not help meet the needs of people."

Dr Thieme noted that all sanitary ware — wash basins, white enamel and sinks — were being imported at the moment and yet the country had abundant and suitable raw materials which could be used to manufacture these locally.

Plaster of Paris was being imported and yet the raw material — gypsum — was plentiful in Lochinvar Game Park, Luangwa valley, and Western Province.

He said small scale mining industries in such areas would provide plenty raw materials.

Dr Thieme said big companies were not attracted in these industries because they only thought of exports.

The concept should not be export earnings, but import savings, he said.

ZAMBIA

FOREIGN EXCHANGE FLOW IMPROVES

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 13 Jul 79 p 2

[Text] The present flow of receipts for foreign exchange is satisfactory and augurs well for the economic take-off, a Bank of Zambia spokesman said in Lusaka yesterday.

He explained that a sizeable "dent" had since been made which also reduced overseas payment arrears considerably.

He said because of this situation the country was now able to keep paying for imports whose pipeline had been reduced from 26 to 16 months.

He attributed this improvement to the re-opening of the southern route which has made it possible to ship copper and other export commodities to external markets on time.

The stable rise on the London Metal Exchange [LME] also contributed substantially to the favourable foreign exchange earning.

"So far the receipts for foreign exchange are reasonable and this will definitely have a greater impact on the economic recovery," he said.

Zambia's foreign reserves holdings increased by a moderate K100,000 during the quarter which ended in September 1978, according to latest quarterly statistical review published by the bank.

This represented a marginal improvement in the economy which saw the Government budget recording an overall surplus of K17.6 million.

The surplus reflected a turnout of K60 million over the previous quarter.

The balance of payments under the same period recorded an overall deficit of K69.4 million, reflecting a deterioration of the K17 million over the previous year's deficit.

But the bank spokesman who could not give figures of how much foreign exchange had been earned by the country added: "The true position about foreign exchange earning is that we are improving quite reasonably."

ZAMBIA

MINISTERS ACCUSED OF SLOWING DOWN URANIUM MINING

Lusaka SUNDAY TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 15 Jul 79 p 1

[Text] Inaction on the part of previous ministers responsible for mines has slowed down Zambia's progress in the uranium industry, two geological experts in the Ministry of Mines charged yesterday.

Director of the Geological Survey Department, Dr Fred Thieme and deputy director, Mr Nick Money said Zambia could by now be closer to realising the opening of its first uranium mine had the previous mining ministers taken a keen interest in the work of their department.

They explained, in an interview, that the department completed work on the uranium programme at the end of 1975 and recommendations were submitted to authorities so that all what remained was signing the agreement with Agip Spa.

"But the programme did not receive the support and boost it needed and right now, we are no better than we were in 1976 as far as the programme and everything in the uranium business is concerned," Dr Thieme said.

Mr Money complained that it took three years before the uranium agreement could be signed and yet this could have been done in 1976.

The two experts paid tribute to the present Mines Minister Mr Mufaya Mumbuna, for his willingness and determination in seeing that the uranium programme did not remain static and for "taking the pain and trouble in supporting the work of the department."

Dr Thieme said it would take another five years before Zambia could have its uranium mined and before the mineral could be exported.

They referred to President Kaunda's opening address to the International Atomic Energy Commission advisory meeting on uranium deposits of Africa on November 15 1977, at Mulungushi Hall in Lusaka.

In his address, Dr Kaunda said: "The increasing demand for energy throughout the world and the decreasing resource of organic fuels place

the nuclear raw material--uranium--in the spotlight as the future energy source and we are asking you, the scientists, to hurry up because the new material is here."

The President added that efforts should be made to take a systematic stock of raw materials and potential "and begin to come to some arrangement with those who at present have the know-how and are in need of this energy."

According to the two men, the President implied that the uranium programme which had been submitted should be dynamic and agreements which were pending be processed quickly.

CSO: 4420

ZAMBIA

OFFICIALS ACCUSED OF MONOPOLIZING FERTILE LAND

UNZASU Charge

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 12 Jul 79 p 1

[Text] The University of Zambia Students Union (UNZASU) has charged that top Party and Government officials have taken up most of the fertile land in the country at the expense of the masses.

It has also appealed to the Party and its Government to check the accounts of some leaders who have reportedly salted away large amounts of money in foreign countries.

UNZASU feels that UNIP being a mass party could not effectively guide the process of socio-economic transformation and that power is only at Freedom House in the hands of an "elite."

"At the moment we feel that our state in Zambia is a neo-colonial one," the student body said,

This is contained in submissions made to President Kaunda by student representatives when he met them at State House recently,

Dr Kaunda is Chancellor of the University of Zambia.

UNZASU says while peasants were strapped for arable agricultural land "powerful petty bourgeois elements" who include members of the Central Committee and other top Party leaders had gone into the countryside and "fenced all the fertile land near to well established infrastructure some of which is not being used."

The document was released by UNZASU yesterday quoted union president, Mr Morgan Luywa, as saying that the question of land was quite a controversial issue in that most of it was concentrated in the hands of powerful Party and Government figures.

The student leader gave example of an influential chief in the country who owned large tracts of land which were not farmed and peasants were made to pay money to fish in ponds on his land.

Mr Luywa said peasants and workers in the country were being exploited and were not getting a fair deal regarding the products of their sweat and labour while other people had continued to grow fat.

He said because land was concentrated in the hands of the elite the poor peasants were suffering. He urged the Party and its Government to step in and "remove the rot before the masses rebel."

The present landownership structure demonstrated the colonial nature of crown and 'native' land system; and this had made it easier for those with wealth to acquire vast tracts of land.

President Kaunda will today unveil a statue at the Great East road campus, erected by Mr Henry Tayali, a research fellow in the Institute for African Studies at UNZA.

Proof Demanded

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 14 Jul 79 p 1

[Text] The University of Zambia Students Union has been challenged to prove allegations that top Party leaders and Cabinet ministers have grabbed large tracts of land in the country at the expense of the masses.

Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Mr Clement Mwananshiku said yesterday that top leaders in the Party were now fed up with insults from certain sections of the community who made baseless allegations.

He said the conduct of leaders in the country was spelt out in the Leadership Code. It was not true that some of the officials had used their positions to exploit the land law.

UNZASU president, Mr Morgan Luywa said last week in submissions which the student body made to President Kaunda at State House that top leaders had acquired vast tracts of land in the country.

"We are waiting for them to give details of those leaders who have taken large tracts of land in rural areas so that we can investigate and take remedial measures," Mr Mwananshiku said.

The Party, he said, strongly "deplored" the tendency on the part of some individuals to criticise the leadership in the country without giving consideration to its good sides.

The minister said instead of indulging in "destructive" criticism, UNZASU should concern itself with promoting unity and development in the country rather than attack "patient and innocent" leaders.

NAMBOARD CLOSES GRAIN DEPOTS IN CHISAMBA

Poor Roads To Blame

Lusaka SUNDAY TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 15 Jul 79 p 7

[Text]

POOR roads have forced Namboard to close several of its depots in Chisamba.

Namboard grains marketing officer in Chisamba, Mr Dennis Hanangama, confirmed the closure of six depots at Hankwa, Katende, Chilikwela A and B, Mungule and Cilo Chabalenje areas.

He said some roads had become impassable and unless Chibombo rural council improved them more than 50,000 bags of maize would be destroyed when the rains set in.

He said that at present he was making arrangements to retrieve empty bags and tarpaulins stuck in the closed depots. Fertiliser would be sold to peasant farmers.

Reported

Mr Hanangama reported that recently angry headmen from areas where the shut-down depots are situated, stormed his office to complain about the closure.

"I pointed out to them that it was not Namboard's wish to close down depots in their areas. It is because no transporter is prepared to operate there due to the poor condition of roads," he said.

The headmen reportedly protested that although they had raised about K1,500 to hire a grader to improve the roads, the rural council was not willing to help.

Mr Hanangama said farmers affected by the depot closures had been advised to take their produce to nearest depots where roads were in better condition.

"We sympathise with peasant farmers because the depots where they are supposed to take their produce are far from their homes."

Party Crackdown Urged

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 16 Jul 79 p 1

[Editorial]

[Text]

THIS morning there ought to be a full-scale row over the shocking decision to close Namboard depots in the Chisamba area.

The trials and tribulations of our farmers are almost at nightmare level. Can it be true or is it fantasy that Namboard depots have closed and that farmers cannot deliver their maize?

There is hunger in Zambia. Does nobody at Namboard or in the rural councils know that Zambia is short of maize and is importing it at great cost? Just how do we shake up these "jacks in office" and make them recognise their duty?

Mr Fitzpatrick Chuula is right to be angry about the ludicrous situation in the Chisamba area. We suggest that he makes his anger and protest heard right up to Central Committee level.

Heads must roll over this one. Somewhere along the labyrinthine chain of command there is an individual who has not done his job in ensuring that roads were graded.

He must be found no matter how high the office he holds. Then he must be sacked with much publicity. There is too great a tendency these days for highly paid officials evading their responsibilities.

Too many chairmen of committees blame "the Party" or "they" or the "West" or the "weather" when things go wrong. Yet it is they who are to blame. Don't they know that the essence of administration is planning and taking decisions?

In the end it is the ordinary loyal Zambian who suffers. His taxes pay the salaries of the faceless men who cannot or will not do the jobs for which they are paid.

The Party must crack down hard on this ridiculous attitude which seeks to excuse personal laziness or worse by blaming all mistakes on some obscure "they".

Do the feather-bedded bureaucrats not know that basic food items are almost unobtainable in Lusaka and other urban areas?

What then are people going to eat if our own home grown maize is going to rot just because neither Namboard nor the rural councils took action early enough to have roads graded?

Zambia is a nation fighting for survival. Agriculture is her hope. How can farmers be motivated if they cannot market their crops?

A few weeks ago we warned that many farmers will resort to hoarding their crops this year unless the muddle that is Namboard is sorted out. The Chisamba fiasco seems to underline that warning.

It is high time the people got rid of the wreckers who preach UNIP policy in public and then idle their hours away and fail to implement it.

A start could be made with the men responsible for the Chisamba scandal.

ZAMBIA

BRIEFS

ZAF PILOT KILLED--A Zambia Air Force (ZAF) plane crashed at Lusaka International airport yesterday, killing the pilot. A Ministry of Defence spokesman said in a statement that the plane crashed during a training flight. The name of the pilot was being withheld until the next of kin were informed. The statement gave no further details about the crash. This is the second ZAF plane to crash this year. Early this year, another plane crashed in Livingstone killing its pilot. [Text] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 16 Jul 79 p 1]

SOAP SHORTAGE--The present shortage of washing powder and bathing soap has been caused by the non-availability of animal fat from Botswana. ROP 1975 Limited general manager, Mr Maxwell Nyirongo said in Ndola that his company could not bring in the fat from Botswana because the ferry at Kazungula was damaged in a bomb blast by rebel Rhodesian soldiers. The fat, an essential ingredient in the manufacture of both washing powder and bathing soap, had now to be transported through the southern route and was on the "queue" awaiting transportation, he said. Mr Nyurongo said that Colgate-Palmolive company which also produces detergents and soaps had temporarily stopped producing these items because it was commissioning a new factory and that this had also contributed to the shortage. He, however, said that his company was expecting a new consignment of the vital ingredient by the end of this month.--ZANA. [Text] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 14 Jul 79 p 2]

FUEL SHORTAGE--Choma General Hospital has been hit by a shortage of fuel, acting medical superintendent, Dr Francisco Battung, confirmed on Thursday. Dr Battung said because of the shortage of fuel at the hospital the few ambulances were lying idle. He said the institution was operating under difficult conditions and that patients in need of transport were being asked to look for alternative means. Dr Battung said he had made efforts to contact Livingstone medical authorities over the issue but that the medical secretary there is reported to be in Lusaka. [Text] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 14 Jul 79 p 2]

OIL FROM COAL--LUSAKA: Zambia would start extracting oil from coal in view of the rising costs of oil, the Minister of State for Mines, Mr Fabiano Kalimaposo, announced yesterday. Mr Kalimaposo said although the venture would be costly, in the long run it would be cheaper than importing oil which was now obtained from Saudi Arabia. [Text] [Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 17 Jul 79 p 1]

CZECH LOAN--Negotiations between the Government and Czechoslovakia are still going on for the signing of the K10 million technical loan offered to Zambia two years ago. Confirming this in Lusaka yesterday, commercial attache at the Czech embassy, Mr Vladimir Hofbauer, said that not a single ngwee of this money had been put to use by Zambia. "But this is not something to worry about because we know that this will be done soon as the two countries have strong trade relations," Mr Hofbauer said. The commercial attache also revealed that undisclosed number of technical experts would be coming to Zambia by the end of the year under the new scientific agreement between the two countries. The experts will include doctors, lecturers for the University of Zambia and geological survey experts. "My country is pleased with this increased technical assistance to Zambia and this comes because of the good relations which exist between us," he said. However, Mr Hofbauer said that there was a problem of accommodation for the experts. "We are trying to negotiate with the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources for land on which we can build houses for these experts," he said. He added "otherwise everything else is all right and we are hoping that the K10 million loan offered to Zambia will soon be put to use." [Text] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 12 Jul 79 p 2]

PRC YOUTH MISSION--A five-man Chinese youth delegation led by Vice-President of the All-China Youth Federation, Mr Liu Hou Ming has arrived in Lusaka for a 10-day official visit to Zambia. The Chinese delegation will be in the country at the invitation of the United National Independence Party's Youth League and during their stay would hold discussions with the Party and its Government leaders. The Chinese youth delegation is reciprocating the two visits made by the UNIP Youth League delegation to China in the past two years. Mr Liu, who described the visit as "historical," said he and his delegation were looking forward to calling on President Kaunda during their stay in the country. He thanked the Party and its Government for the warm welcome accorded to his delegation. The delegation was met at Lusaka International Airport by the Secretary of the Youth League, Mr Bautis Kapulu, who is also Member of the Central Committee and Mr Joseph Mutale, Provincial Political Secretary at Freedom House, and Chinese charge d'affaires, Mr Wang Dongmen. And speaking in an interview yesterday, Mr Liu said the youth in China had suffered from educational and economic sabotage by the "gang of four" from 1966 to 1976. He said there was serious stagnancy, particularly in the education sector in which the Chinese youth were forced to remain backward during that period because of the "gang of four's" influence. [Text] [Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 16 Jul 79 p 3]

YOUTHS TRAIN IN USSR--A group of 84 youths are to travel to the Soviet Union later this year to undergo training in various fields. This was confirmed at the President's Citizenship College by the Soviet Union ambassador to Zambia, Mr Vasil Solodovnikov when he presented a 33mm film projector to the college on Tuesday. Mr Solodovnikov said the bonds of friendship which exist between Zambia and the Soviet Union could not be complete without the exchange of visits among young people. [Text] [Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 12 Jul 79 p 5]

CHLORIDE EXPORTS TO RISE--Chloride Zambia has increased production by 90 per cent to meet rising demand, general manager Mr Greg Redfern disclosed yesterday. Mr Redfern said Chloride exports this year were expected to exceed last year's which were worth K645,000. He said with the commissioning of the new separator plant that arrived from Britain recently, output was expected to rise. Mr Redfern said the firm would manufacture 600 automotive batteries and 5,000 nonautomotive batteries per year. He added that before the commissioning of the plant, the company used to import separator plates for batteries but these would now be manufactured locally. Mr Redfern has been appointed general manager following Mr Peter Moffatt's return to Chloride Group in Britain. Mr Redfern, an Australian, joined the group eight years ago as a management accountant before coming to Zambia as finance manager in 1975. He has also held the post of operations executive for Africa and Australia. [Text] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 10 Jul 79 p 2]

ZIMCO HOLDING INCREASED--ZIMCO has raised the value of its holding in the Roan Consolidated Mines (RCM) by K40 million, a company spokesman announced in Lusaka yesterday. It has subscribed 7,407,407 new "A" shares of K4 each at a price of K5.40 per share to raise K40 million. The decision to increase the holding was passed at an extraordinary meeting of holders of the ordinary "B" shares of RCM yesterday, the spokesman said. The proceeds from this issue would be used to repay part of the loan to RCM from the Zambian Government amounting to K112,250,000. The remaining K72,250,000 of the loan would bear interest at nine per cent per year from April 1, 1980 and would be repayable in 12 equal semi-annual instalments starting on July 1, 1980, [Text] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 10 Jul 79 p 1]

SITHOLE AID DETAINED--Deputy director of Pan-African Affairs in the former rebel Rhodesian internal sham settlement detained for coming to Zambia to find out about disputes within ZAPU, yesterday lost his application for writ of habeas corpus, at Lusaka High Court. Wilfred Pasipanodya was detained on November 21 last year under the Preservation of the Public Security Act. According to the State, Pasipanodya, on October 10, being a staunch supporter of Sithole's faction of ZANU, came to Zambia to find out the extent of tribalism in ZAPU. He also found out the extent of damage caused on ZAPU camps and the number of casualties on the cadres during the recent Rhodesian raids into Zambia. The final ground said: "You (Pasipanodya) endeavoured to confirm rumours that Ndebele cadres were complaining about Karangas dominating high posts within ZAPU." In his affidavit for the writ, Pasipanodya said he came to Zambia in October 9, via Malawi on official duty to deliver documents to officials of the two countries and he was to fly back to Rhodesia on October 24. His counsel, Mr Chifumu Banda, said: "Coming to find out about tribalism within ZAPU cannot be justification for detention. As regards the raids and casualties, at the time my client came to Zambia, there were no raids. The applicant was already in detention." [Text] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 14 Jul 79 p 1]

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